



ADMINISTRATION REPORT  
OF THE  
NORTH-WEST FRONTIER PROVINCE  
FOR  
1904-05.

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OF THE

## NORTH-WEST FRONTIER PROVINCE

FOR

1904-05.



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NORTH-WEST FRONTIER PROVINCE  
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PART I.  
—  
GENERAL SUMMARY.

1. Although the year passed without grave disturbance, and no necessity ~~Frontier affairs.~~ arose for employing armed force against any tribe or section, nevertheless both in the north and the south of the Frontier there were at times grave elements of unrest which might easily have developed into serious trouble. In Dir the death of the Nawab, which had been long awaited, occurred in December. Before this, however, his younger son, Miangul Jan, impatient of his opportunity, had raised the standard of revolt in his father's lifetime, and had been defeated and exiled, so that on his father's death his diminished influence made him welcome a refuge in Peshawar. His absence averted for the time the struggle for the Khanate, which actually did occur later, though on a smaller scale. As it was, the elder son, Badshah Khan, was enabled to consolidate his position and to resist with comparative success the attempts of the neighbouring Khans to seize the Bajaur possessions of the late Nawab. In the Khyber the Afridis had broken their agreement with Government by their visits to Kabul in the summer, and in the winter the malcontent Afridi party which had organized these visits attempted to involve the clan in hostilities with Government by aiding and abetting the predatory operations in British territory of a gang of Afridi bad characters and outlaws from British territory. The tribe as a whole was not, however, disposed to break with Government, and afforded proof of its good intentions by taking concerted action against these bad characters, on whom it inflicted substantial and salutary punishment.

In Waziristan the success of the Militia scheme was imperilled by two brutal and unprovoked murders of British officers by Mahsud sepoys of the Southern Waziristan Militia. The result was to destroy confidence in the Mahsuds then serving in the Southern Waziristan Militia,—about one quarter of the whole strength,—and it was deemed advisable to disband the Mahsud companies in that Corps and to readmit the tribe to recruitment on a fresh basis. In Northern Waziristan a pseudo prophet claiming to command a supernatural army succeeded in raising a spirit of religious excitement which at one time showed signs of developing into serious unrest, but the fraud employed was too transparent, and with its detection the feeling died down. With these exceptions the conduct of the tribes was generally satisfactory. In September the Mastu Khel section of the Gar Massuzai Orakzais, which had for a long time been the disturbing element in the Kurram, came

in and made full submission and reparation for the offences committed by them. Apart from the murders committed in the Southern Waziristan Militia, the Mahsuds as a tribe continued the good behaviour of the preceding year.

**Frontier Militia  
Corps, &c.**

2. The policy of withdrawing Military garrisons from the trans-frontier Agencies was completed in the autumn, when Kajuri Kach, Nili Kach and Miramshah were handed over to the Militia. The results of the inspection of all Militia Corps by General Officers were again extremely satisfactory, and but for the two outrages in the Southern Waziristan Militia already mentioned, it would have been possible to report substantial progress everywhere in efficiency, discipline and personnel. The Border Military Police maintained the improvement noticed last year, and were successful on several occasions in intercepting and capturing raiding gangs. The Mehtar of Chitral continues to take keen interest in, and to afford every assistance to, the Corps of Chitrali Scouts which has now been successfully established.

**Ordinary rela-  
tions with  
Afghanistan.**

3. One of the chief disturbing elements in the Province was a gang of Afghans and outlaws from British territory with its head-quarters at Hazarnao in Afghanistan under the moral and material support of the local Afghan officials. This gang committed serious depredations in the Peshawar District, coming and returning through the Bazar Valley. Mahsud and Sheranni outlaws from this Province, who have received shelter in Afghanistan near Ghazni, aided by some Afghan subjects, made a successful attack on the Khuni Burj post in Zhob in Baluchistan, and later on attempted a similar attack on the post of Shinbaz, also in Zhob. The Sarhang of Dakka continues to manifest the unfriendly spirit noticed last year, and carries on with unabated vigour his intrigues with the Afridis. In Mohmand country Mallas from Afghanistan have been attempting to create agitation by fanatical preaching, to which the tribes have been more willing to lend a receptive ear owing to their uncertainty as to the Power on which their control will finally devolve in the event of the demarcation of the undefined portion of the Durand boundary line. In the Kurram the neighbouring Afghan Governors, by their refusal to take reciprocal action in cases of offences committed in British territory by Afghan subjects, have to a considerable extent nullified the effects of the British-Afghan Joint Commission held last year. Generally speaking the minor Afghan border officials are manifesting a spirit of unfriendliness to the British Government, and in matters affecting both Governments are carrying out a policy of obstruction rather than reciprocity.

**Condition of  
the people.**

4. An excellent harvest in the spring of 1904 and a fair autumn crop following a year of comparative prosperity and easy prices made the condition of the people generally prosperous. Prices fell to an average which has not been reached in the preceding twenty years, and with this there naturally came an increase in the volume of external trade. This favourable state of affairs also extended to the tracts beyond the administrative border.

**Realization of  
the revenue.**

5. The results of the realization of the land revenue reflected the prosperous condition of the people generally. Of the annual yearly demand under fixed land revenue practically the entire amount was collected, while

the collections on account of arrears of past years showed an increase of 50 per cent. over those of the preceding year. The exceptionally favourable spring season of 1904 caused a large extension of cultivation, generally in the area under fluctuating assessment. The greater portion of the crop was successfully harvested, and as a result of this and of the change from fixed to fluctuating assessment in certain tracts of Dera Ismail Khan, the demand under the head of fluctuating land revenue rose nearly 50 per cent., of which practically the entire amount was collected. The amount of the fixed revenue demand which it was found necessary to suspend fell from Rs. 28,000 to Rs. 4,000. Despite the prosperity of the season the amount taken in loan under the Land Improvements and Agriculturists Loans Acts was considerably in excess of that taken in the previous year, a fact which shows that the advantages afforded by these Acts are being yearly more appreciated by the people. There was some decrease in the number of processes issued for the recovery of land revenue. This decrease, however, bore no proper proportion to the increased prosperity of the people, and this would bear out the view already stated in previous reports that the delay in payment which requires the issue of process is due to inherent procrastination rather than inability to pay.

6. In Hazara the Settlement survey of the district has been completed, Survey and Settlements. and good progress has been made in the Bannu District and the Kurram Agency. Parties of the Survey Department have been at work in the riverain tract of Dera Ismail Khan, and a considerable amount of work was successfully carried out across the administrative border in Waziristan by Survey parties working under tribal escorts. In the Kohat District the Settlement maps of the entire district have been brought to a high degree of accuracy, while the new assessments of the whole district have now been introduced yielding an increased demand of about 35 per cent. The measurements in the Hazara District, which were hampered by the mountainous nature of the country, have been completed, and final orders have been passed on the Assessment Reports of two of the three tahsils. The result has been in one case almost to double the demand and in the other to raise it by 50 per cent., but in both cases the original assessment which was made over 30 years ago was extremely lenient.

7. The Punjab Land Alienation Act as modified by Act I of 1904 was Revenue and rent paying classes. brought into effect in June in the Bannu, Hazara and Dera Ismail Khan districts. Its provisions apply not only to proprietary but also to occupancy rights. As the Act has only been in operation for nine months of the year under report, it is of course impossible to arrive at any conclusion as to the result of its application, but, as was naturally to be expected, a slight fall in the price of land and some contraction of credit have followed its first introduction. To the latter may in some degree be attributed the increase in Takavi loans.

8. There has again been a general decrease in crime of a serious Police. nature, and this would have been the more marked had it not been for the operations of bands of trans-border raiders such as the Hazarnao gang. The number of murders committed during the year showed a still further diminution. For the reasons noticed in last year's report it is impossible

to obtain statistics which show with any accuracy the division of crime between inhabitants of the settled districts and of the trans-border tracts, but the returns may nevertheless be taken to show that within the settled districts respect for the law and maintenance of order are steadily gaining ground. At the same time the comparatively orderly state of affairs is undoubtedly attributable in a large degree to the fact that the southern portion of the Province was undisturbed by any disorder in Waziristan, while in the northern portion the only disturbing elements were the depredations of the Hazarnao gang and the malcontent Afridi sections. The disadvantages in the matter of recruitment under which the Police Department laboured in comparison with the Army and Frontier Irregular Corps were further accentuated during the year. Resignations were even more frequent than in the previous year, while the recruitment even of men who fell short of the desired stamp was found to be attended with the greatest difficulty. As a consequence the Force is considerably below strength.

Criminal  
Justice.

9. It is satisfactory to note as a sign of improved police working and of the increased co-operation rendered by the people themselves in coming forward to give evidence that it has been found possible for the ordinary criminal tribunals to dispose of a considerable number of cases which would under former conditions have been referred to Councils of Elders under the Frontier Crimes Regulation. The attention of the Magistrates, which was called last year to the judicious use of the preventive provisions of the law, has resulted in a diminution throughout the Province in the number of persons required to find security, and at the same time there has been a decrease in serious crime. The results of the investigation of complaints made direct to Magistrates are still unsatisfactory, and there can be little doubt that in the majority of complaints of this nature the power of seeking redress through the Courts is being abused to gain private ends. It is only by a stringent employment of the law regarding summary dismissal and the award of compensation that this misuse can be prevented. The work of Criminal Courts continues to be kept well up to date, and the result of trials shows little variation from the previous year. There was an increase in the number of appeals lodged, but the percentage of appeals in which the orders of the lower courts were reversed or modified was practically unchanged.

Prisons.

10. The overcrowding of gaols, though not so marked as in the previous year, was again rendered necessary by the limited accommodation of the five district gaols and by the incarceration of a considerable number of political detenus. Nevertheless no injury to health can be traced to this cause, and the health of the prisoners was rather better than in the previous year. The death-rate among prisoners was again approximately half that of the ordinary free population. There were no escapes from custody, but at the same time there was a considerable increase in the number of offences against prison discipline. The financial results of the gaol industries continued to improve. Their development, however, is hampered by frequent changes of the office of Superintendent, owing to the fact that there is no permanent Superintendent in Kohat, Bannu or Dera Ismail Khan, and the office is held in collateral charge by a Military Medical Officer of the garrison.

Civil Justice.

11. The application of the Punjab Land Alienation Act and the fact of four out of the five districts in the Province being under Settlement probably

account to a certain extent for the large amount of civil litigation engaged in by the inhabitants of the Province. But while some satisfaction may be derived from the fact of the people bringing their disputes into Court instead of settling them by more primitive methods, it cannot be denied that the returns of the year show the existence of an unduly litigious tendency. Being so general, litigation is necessarily of a petty character, and in 83 per cent. of the suits instituted the value of the property at stake did not exceed Rs. 100. The salutary decrease in the number of matrimonial suits has not been maintained, and until some satisfactory method, such as registration, is devised for providing evidence of marriages, it is hard to see how matrimonial suits can be discouraged. So long as the Pathan regards a customary right to marriage with a certain woman as equivalent to actual marriage, and in enforcing this view finds support both from public opinion and from the facility of fabricating evidence, it is practically impossible for the Courts to come to a satisfactory conclusion on the conflicting claims before them. The general working of the Civil Courts showed an improvement on the previous year. The average duration of suits was less and the number of appeals lodged fewer.

12. The introduction of the Punjab Land Alienation Act into the Registration districts of Dera Ismail Khan, Bannu and Hazara with its restrictions on the transfer of land has naturally affected registration. The value, however, of the property transferred by registered instruments was only slightly below the average of the last six years. This is explained by the increased number of transactions in the Peshawar District to which the Act does not apply.

13. The average attendance at meetings by members of the District District Boards. Boards showed a slight improvement, and it is satisfactory to note that in the Hazara District the non-official members showed signs of awaking from apathy in all matters except those which immediately concerned themselves. The system of sub-committees requiring a practical and business-like attention to the work of the Committee called for more personal and disinterested effort than the members were prepared to give, and appears to have been generally a doubtful success.

14. The working of the larger Municipalities, where the district Municipalities. officials were able themselves directly to supervise affairs, was generally satisfactory, but in the smaller Municipalities, where such supervision was not possible, the results were not hopeful, and the only thing that was satisfactory in the proceedings of the smaller Municipalities was the attendance of the members. So long as the non-official members regard their nomination to the Municipal Committee as merely a personal distinction, involving no sacrifice of time or labour in the public interest, little improvement can be hoped for. The financial position of all Municipalities was sound, and advantage was taken of the prosperous condition of the funds to carry through or inaugurate useful sanitary reforms.

15. Endeavours are being made to improve the quality of seed grain Agriculture. by the introduction of English rice and of American maize which has already been found to do well in the Hazara District. In Bannu an experimental

seed farm has been started under the direction of the Settlement Officer, and good results have already been obtained. Endeavours are being made to provide for a more economic use of canal water in Bannu and Peshawar, in which districts it is believed that the inhabitants employ water on an extravagant scale, thereby water-logging the soil and actually decreasing the ultimate outturn.

**Weather and Crops.**

16. Good rain in August and October 1903 again enabled a large area to be sown for the spring harvest of 1904. The winter rains were late, and were followed by severe cold and unusually heavy rain in March. There was a want of timely rain in April and May, during which months hailstorms did much damage in Peshawar and Kohat. Nevertheless the crop outturn was satisfactory. An area above the average was sown, and of this the crops on only 11 per cent. failed to ripen. Favourable conditions resulted in a considerable area being sown for the autumn harvest, and throughout the summer the rains were generally well distributed and beneficial. September was unusually dry, but plentiful and timely rains in October resulted in an unexpectedly large proportion of the standing crop being brought to maturity. At the same time the total area sown for the autumn harvest was considerably less than that of the previous year, and the harvest generally may be described as slightly below the average. Throughout the year the supply of fodder was sufficient and the condition of cattle was generally good.

**Forests.**

17. The income from the Hazara forests was again larger than in any previous year, exceeding a lakh of rupees, but an increase of Rs. 8,000 in the cost of working reduced the nett income below that of last year. The new rules for the management of village waste lands are working satisfactorily, and signs are already apparent that the people are beginning to realize that the restrictions on the sale of fuel and timber to outsiders have been imposed in their own interests.

**Trade.**

18. The year was noticeable for a general expanse in the volume of trade both with Afghanistan and the tracts across the administrative border. The increase was most substantial in the trade with Afghanistan, which is now nearly three times as large as it was in 1901. This increase can only be attributed to the reasons already given—the greater security afforded to traders and the more liberal commercial policy of the present Amir. Of the exports to Afghanistan the greatest increase was under the head of European piece-goods, of which nearly eleven lakhs worth of rupees were exported more than in the previous year. The decrease in exports was confined to certain cereals and to Indian tea, which in Afghanistan has been ousted in the popular taste by the cheaper and stronger Chinese green tea. Trade with trans-border tracts showed a substantial increase, and the fact that trade with Kashmir was slightly less than in the previous year is probably attributable to the severity of the winter, which rendered the road into Kashmir impassable to traffic for a considerable period.

**Public Works.**

19. The total expenditure on buildings and communications amounted to nearly 22 lakhs of rupees. The chief road works under construction were the Gomal road and the Dera Ismail Khan-Zhab road through the Chuhar Khel Dhana. In the former good progress was made, though work was retarded by the unusual severity of the winter and by the difficult nature

of the country, while the latter road was completed between Draband and the Dahna Sar. The Mullagori road was widened and made fit for wheeled traffic, and the metalling of the Abbottabad road joining the main road to Kashmir at Domel was completed through the remaining half of its length. The chief buildings undertaken during the year were in Peshawar, where the Victoria Memorial and a Hostel for native gentlemen costing Rs. 60,000 and one lakh respectively are under construction. In the Wana Agency, where the posts are under reconstruction or alteration owing to the withdrawal of the troops, the excessive cold prevented much progress being made.

20. Owing to abundant and timely rainfall the demand for water Irrigation. from the Swat and Kabul River Canals was less than usual, and there was in consequence a slight fall in the income of these canals. The extension of canal irrigation to insecure tracts continues to receive attention. During the year the construction was sanctioned of the Paharpur Canal in the Dera Ismail Khan District at a cost of seven lakhs. The area irrigated will be about 50,000 acres, and preliminary work has already begun. A scheme for the remodelling and extension of irrigation in the Bannu District was worked out by the Irrigation Department in consultation with the local Civil Officers. Considerable progress has been made in the construction of the Hazarkhani branch of the Kabul River Canal, which will irrigate some 18,000 acres, while the preliminary surveys for the Upper Swat Canal project were almost completed.

21. The total receipts under Imperial Revenues amounted to slightly under 33 lakhs and the expenditure to 56 lakhs as against an income of slightly over 33 lakhs and an expenditure of 55 lakhs in the preceding year. The decrease in revenue was chiefly under the heads of Law and Justice—Courts of Law, and Miscellaneous. The increase in expenditure was chiefly under the heads of Land Revenue and Political. Incorporated Local Funds show, as in the previous year, an income and expenditure of approximately  $3\frac{1}{2}$  lakhs. The total income of Excluded Local Funds was over  $2\frac{1}{2}$  lakhs and the expenditure some Rs. 20,000 less than the income. The Municipal Revenue shows an income rather over, and an expenditure slightly under,  $5\frac{1}{2}$  lakhs. Revenue and Expenditure.

22. The immunity of the Province from plague continued throughout Vital Statistics. the year, in which there were only four cases—all imported. The year, however, was otherwise unhealthy, and the death-rate—28·56—was slightly in advance of that of the previous year, and 4·36 above the quinquennial mean average. The birth-rate was returned at 34·93—three in excess of the quinquennial mean. It is possible, however, that this apparent increase is due to more careful registration. The preponderance of the number of male children over the number of female children born has not yet been satisfactorily explained. It was suggested that this was in some degree due less to the actual facts than to the Pathan disinclination to register the birth of a female child. Experiments, however, which were conducted over selected tracts showed that, though the number of births registered was considerably below the number of children actually born, the figures after careful scrutiny still showed the proportionate preponderance of male over female children born to be little less than that given in the general returns. It is to be noted that the prevalence of matrimonial suits is largely due to this excess of the male over the female population.

**Medical relief.**

23. The popularity of Medical institutions among the inhabitants of this Province both cis-border and trans-border continues to increase. The number of patients treated in Government Hospitals was in excess of that of the previous year, and the results of treatment were also more satisfactory. This progress, however, was not noticeable in the case of operations, and the fact that the number of persons submitting themselves to operations was less than in the previous year can only be attributed to want of continuity in the medical appointments. The Mission Hospitals continued to do good work. The total expenditure of Government dispensaries was Rs. 1,02,500 and the income Rs. 1,04,180, and it is satisfactory to note that the subscriptions of native gentlemen showed a marked increase on the previous year.

**Sanitation and Vaccination.**

24. The increase in the expenditure incurred in the previous year by Municipalities on sanitation was found to have yielded beneficial results leading to a continuance of the policy of increased expenditure on sanitation. The expenditure in 1904 was nearly a lakh and a half, or 26 per cent. of the total Municipal income. Pipe-water was introduced into Abbottabad and Tank, and the existing supply extended in Peshawar, where the drainage system was also improved. There was no universal request for vaccination in any of the trans-border Agencies as was the case in previous years in Mahsud Country and Chitral. Consequently the number of vaccinations performed throughout the Province fell to 77,000, or 22,000 less than in 1903-04. Within the settled districts, however, the number of vaccinations was in excess of the previous year. Of primary vaccinations a proportion of 98·96 were successful. The total cost of vaccination operations was slightly over Rs. 11,000.

**Education.**

25. The figures for the year show that steady, if not rapid, progress is being made in education. Eleven new public schools and 90 new private schools were opened during the year, and there was an increase of some 1,400 in the number of scholars. The same progress is noticeable in female education. The examination results have been rather more satisfactory in the lower grades, but in the University Entrance Examination, though the number of candidates was practically the same, the percentage of passes was considerably less than in the previous year. In the trans-border Agencies the desire for education has been maintained, and the wishes of the trans-border community are being met by the establishment of primary schools.

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## PART II.

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# CHAPTER I. POLITICAL.

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## 1. Physical Features of the Country, Area, Climate and Chief Staples.

(See pages 1—5 of the Report for the period 9th November 1901 to 31st March 1903.)

## 2. Historical Summary.

(See pages 5—12 of the Report for the period 9th November 1901 to 31st March 1903.)

## 3. Form of Administration.

(See page 12 of the Report for the period 9th November 1901 to 31st March 1903.)

## 4. Character of Land Tenures.

(See pages 12—17 of the Report for the period 9th November 1901 to 31st March 1903.)

## 5. System of Survey and Settlements.

(See pages 17—18 of the Report for the period 9th November 1901 to 31st March 1903.)

## 6. Civil Divisions of British Territory.

(See page 18 of the Report for the period 9th November 1901 to 31st March 1903.)

## 7. Details of the Census—Tribes and Language.

(See pages 19—25 of the Report for the period 9th November 1901 to 31st March 1903.)

## 8. Changes in the Administration.

1. The Hon'ble Lieutenant-Colonel H. A. Deane, c.s.i., held charge of the office of Chief Commissioner and Agent to the Governor-General throughout the year.

## 9. Frontier Affairs.

2. The year was one of unrest, arising in the north from Afghan General intrigues, in the south from a wave of fanaticism, which caused the unprovoked murder of two British Officers at the hands of Mahsud sepoys of the Southern Waziristan Militia, and an unprovoked attack, happily unsuccessful, on a British Officer at Bannu. At one time serious and widespread disturbance was threatened, but the danger was averted.

3. Still there is some progress to report. A successful visit was paid by two British Officers, with tribal escort only, to the Mahaban Mountain, a place of great archaeological interest lying in Gadun country on the Yusufzai border. Survey operations were carried out in the country north of the Khyber. The tract of Waziristan lying between the Tochi

and Kurram rivers was, in accordance with the agreement with the tribes, repeatedly traversed by small parties without any untoward incident. Survey parties were also at work in many other parts of Waziristan, outside Mahsud land, protected only by tribal guards; and although fomentors of disturbance used the presence of the survey camps to awaken suspicion of projected aggression by Government, no mischief was done.

**Militia.**

4. The Militia Corps in general, re-armed with Martini-Henry rifles, continued to show themselves worthy of trust, and, on the withdrawal of the regular troops, the important outposts of Miramshah, Kajuri Kach and Nili Kach were made over to them. Chitral, Dros, Chakdarra, the Malakand and Jandola now remain the only places beyond British India where garrisons of regular troops are maintained. A very unfortunate set back occurred, however, in the Wana Agency. The Mahsuds in the Southern Waziristan Militia succumbed to the temptations arising from their preponderance in the local force (after the departure of the regulars) and the nearness of their homes. In September 1904 Captain Bowring, Political Agent, was murdered by an Abdur Rahman Khel sepoy at Sarwakai. The affair was at the time regarded as an isolated instance of fanaticism, but when in February 1905 a similarly unprovoked attempt on the lives of all the British Officers at Wana resulted in the death of Lieutenant-Colonel Harman, D. S. O., Commandant of the Militia, further harm was only prevented by the immediate disarmament and dismissal to their homes of all the Mahsuds in the Southern Waziristan Militia.

The Mahsuds in the Northern Waziristan Militia, the only other Corps which recruits from this source, being in smaller numbers, and at a greater distance from their homes, gave no cause for complaint by their behaviour during a year in which the situation has more than once been critical.

**HAZARA.****Amb.**

5. The Nawab of Amb and his eldest son, Khan-i-Zaman, the heir designate, are on bad terms, as the Nawab has shown a wish to be succeeded by another son, younger than Khan-i-Zaman.

The settlement between the Nawab and the Tilli Sayads has proved a failure. The fault is on the Nawab's side.

**Black Mountain.**

The Hassanzais behaved well, but the Akazais are now taking their turn to sulk and refuse their allowances. Wiser counsels will no doubt prevail with them in time, as with the Hassanzais last year.

**DIR, SWAT AND CHITRAL.****Dir and Bajaur.**

6. In December 1904 Muhammad Sharif Khan, C.I.E., Nawab of Dir, whose health had for some time been failing, died, and was succeeded by his eldest son, Badshah Khan. Mian Gul Jan, his brother and rival, was at the time at Peshawar, his attempt to precipitate the crisis by moving in his father's lifetime having failed. In his absence other opposition to Badshah Khan was not very serious, though his uncle, Saiyid Ahmad Khan of Barwa, supported by the Nawab of Nawagai and the Khan of Khar, caused some trouble by attacking Gambir, which he took, and Mundah, which was successfully relieved. Ultimately all parties, wearied with mutual suspicion and consequent inaction, agreed to maintain the *status quo*. Badshah Khan has since been recognised in Durbar as Khan of Dir, and arrangements have been made to pay to Mian Gul Jan an allowance, conditional on his residing in Peshawar or some other approved place.

The Nawab of Nawagai has, as usual, been quarrelling with his sons. Despite a *pro forma* settlement, relations between him and Muhammad Ali Khan, his eldest son, are very strained.

**Utman Khels.**

The Utman Khels of Totai have been quiet and prosperous, and their jürgas have, at their own costs, built a levy post for the maintenance of peace in the Valley. Considerable sums advanced as takavi for the construction of wells have been punctually repaid.

7. Faction fighting has been rife, but relations with Lower Swat and Upper Swat with Government have remained good.

The Manki Mulla died during the year. The conduct of the tribes in Lower Swat and Sam Ranizai has been excellent, and except in one case at Allah Dand, they have been able to maintain their prohibition against armed faction fighting. Crime in general has been rare. The importance of forest conservancy is beginning to be realised, and the tribal jirgas are taking steps to enforce it.

8. The levies both in Dir and Swat have done good service, and their Levies, Dir and Swat. position has been made easier by the decision of the local Kazis and Mullas, that men employed in the protection of the road in their own country, though servants of Government, are not infidels, but good Muhammadans, and as such entitled to participate in all the rights of their religion. This question and the cognate problem of the lawfulness or unlawfulness of Government allowances has of late been much agitated among all frontier tribes. It is to be hoped that elsewhere the religious leaders will come to an equally sensible decision.

9. The year has been one of quiet prosperity, and, thanks to the co- Chitral. operation of the Mehtar, the Chitral Scouts have continued to do well.

#### PESHAWAR.

10. The year has been chiefly remarkable for the epidemic of dacoities General. committed in British territory by gangs of outlaws, Afridis, and Afghan subjects. The epidemic began in the late autumn and continued throughout the cold weather. Ten dacoities in all were committed, in the course of which 7 persons were killed and 10 wounded, while property of a value estimated at about Rs. 10,000 and 63 head of cattle were carried off. The raiders' head-quarters were at Hazarnao in the territory of His Highness the Amir, where they enjoyed the protection and support of the Afghan officials. In fact the organizer of the gang, the notorious Shakar, is himself a Sadbashi of Afghan Khassadars.

Peshawar Cantonment was again free from serious crime, and relations with the tribes were not unsatisfactory.

11. The behaviour of the Gaduns, Khudu Khels and Bonerwals continued Yusufzai satisfactory, and the traditional tranquillity of the Yusufzai border remained border. undisturbed.

12. The Mohmands gave no actual trouble, but all sections of the tribe Mohmands. were restless and were worked on by fanatical Mullas and Afghan intriguers. They seem to have been in doubt whether, as a result of the Kabul Mission, they would not again fall under the Amir's rule. The Baezai Musa Khel section consequently abstained from coming in to receive their allowances. An important feud among the Tarakzaïs was settled.

13. The Aka Khels as a tribe again behaved well and did their best to Aka Khel restrain their bad characters from joining in the raids of the Hazarnao gang ; Afridis. but in this they were not wholly successful.

#### KHYBER.

14. Early in April 1904 the Sarhang of Dakka began intriguing with General. the Bazar Zakka Khel, and undertook to procure invitations from the Amir for them to send their jirgas to Kabul. In May messengers from ex-Malik Khawas Khan arrived in Tirah bearing what purported to be the promised invitations. Mulla Said Akbar, with some other Kazis and Mullas and about 500 followers, started in response to these, and reached Kabul early in June. The Amir was himself absent at Paghman, but the deputation was handsomely entertained by Shahghasi Abdul Quddus Khan and ex-Malik Khawas on his behalf. After a written agreement had been executed that Afridi recruits would be provided for the Afghan Army, they were dismissed with instructions to come again later. On his return to Tirah, Mulla Said Akbar

gave out that he had been furnished with Rs. 7,000 with which to convey to Kabul a large jirga from every Afridi and Orakzai clan. Further intrigues on the part of the Sarhang of Dakka resulted, despite the efforts of well-disposed Maliks, in the departure for Kabul of a large jirga, which was followed throughout August and September by numerous representatives from every Afridi and Orakzai clan. All were liberally entertained and were several times received in Durbar by His Highness. They were also received by Sardar Nasrullah Khan, and in almost daily interviews were openly incited by the Shahghasi and Khawas Khan, who professed to speak in the name of the Amir, to break off relations with the British Government. The last jirga left Kabul at the end of September with cash presents worth about Rs. 35,000. With this they bought arms and ammunition, which they sold again at a large profit in Tirah.

During the absence of the jirgas in Kabul a serious raid into British territory was committed by a gang of Zakka Khel as a demonstration of defiance of Government and of the Maliks in receipt of allowances from Government. The raiders penetrated 60 miles into the Kohat District, attacked the village of Darshi Khel, killed six men and wounded six others. After driving off a pursuit party, from whom they took four rifles, they made their way back to Tirah with Rs. 2,000 worth of plunder in addition to the rifles. Their loss was one man killed and one captured.

The announcement of the projected despatch of a Mission to Kabul gave some check to the policy of intrigue, but the attitude of the Afridis in general was so unsatisfactory that it was decided in the autumn to withhold the Khyber allowances. The move was successful and resulted in concerted action by tribal lashkars against the leaders of the Darshi Khel raid. One Mir Akbar was killed, the villages of six others were burnt, and they with their families driven out of Afridi limits; two more were captured and surrendered to Government.

**Afridis.**

15. What has been said above of the Afridis in general applies in detail to all the important sections, all of whom were represented in Kabul, and bad characters from each of whom were concerned in the series of dacoities committed by the Hazarnao gang.

**Shinwaris and Shilmanis.**

Both tribes have behaved uniformly well. The Shilmanis rendered every assistance to the Survey party which was encamped in their country for three months last autumn.

**Mullagoria.**

The Mullagoris committed no offences and rendered great assistance in the completion of the road through their country. Their allowance was raised during the year from Rs. 2,000 to Rs. 5,000 per annum.

**KOHAT.****Outlaws.**

16. While returning from a raid at Shakardarra in August 1904 Ism Gul's gang of outlaws fell in with a party of the Khan of Teri's levies, with the result that the notorious Jiwan Das, the brain of all their enterprises, was wounded and captured, and another outlaw killed. Three other members of the gang were shot in Kohat and Kurram during the year, and a fourth was surrendered to the Political Agent, Kurram, during the year by the Khoedad Khel Zaimushts.

**Pass Afridis.**

17. The Pass Afridis were responsible for an attempt to carry off rifles from a guard-house in the Kohat Cantonment. Two sepoys of the guard were severely wounded, but the attempt failed. Three of the guilty parties have been arrested, and, on conviction by a jirga, sentenced to long terms of imprisonment.

**Jowakis.**

The Jowakis behaved well on the whole.

**Orakzais.**

18. Two Mishtis were concerned in the Darshi Khel raid. They have been compelled to leave Orakzai limits by pressure brought to bear on their fellow clansmen. Otherwise the Orakzai gave no trouble.

19. *Kabul Khel, &c.*—The allowances granted in connection with the Wazirs. opening of the Thal-Idak and Thal-Bannu roads have been satisfactorily divided, and both routes have been freely used.

*Khojal Khel.*—The Khojal Khel still maintain their ground in Chinarak.

#### KURRAM.

20. The settlement of the Valley has been in progress throughout the General year, and the Maliks and people have given ready assistance in the work. The results of the British-Afghan Joint Commission have been disappointing, as the record of crimes committed in the Kurram by Afghan subjects during 1904-05 was larger than it has been for years, and complaint to the Governors of Aryob and Khost has no result.

The Mastu Khel section has made a satisfactory settlement of all cases Massuzai. outstanding against it, and has given pledges for future good conduct.

#### BANNU.

21. Relations with the Darwesh Khel Wazirs and Bhittanis remained General peaceful, and the year passed without the occurrence of raids and dacoities within the limits of the district. The fanatical movement, already mentioned, had some effect on the Wazirs of Bannu and led to an attempt on the life of a British Officer by a Baka Khel Utmanzai—a case which was promptly dealt with.

#### TOCHI.

22. The enhanced revenue under the new settlement was paid without General difficulty, and the harvests having been good, there was a marked decrease in serious crime. The only really serious offence was a raid committed by Ism Gul's gang near Idak in December. One raider was killed; the organiser of the raid, a Hindu, was captured, and has been sentenced to death.

The Dauras were, however, at one time considerably affected by the general fanatical spirit in the Agency.

Work on the Idak-Spinwam portion of the Thal-Idak road is now nearly finished.

23. The withdrawal of the regular troops from the Tochi was completed Militia. in October 1904, when Miranshah was handed over to the Northern Waziristan Militia—a body of some 1,300 men, whose good previous record was maintained during the year.

24. The behaviour of the tribes was on the whole good. In the spring Tribal affairs. of 1905 there was a good deal of unrest and fanatical excitement, arising in part from the claims of a Madda Khel Mulla who professed to have a fairy army at call, with which he was going to bring the ten years' dominion of the British Government in Waziristan to an end. The fraud by which he endeavoured to support his pretensions was, however, discovered, and with this discovery the excitement began to subside.

Owing mainly to the efforts of the Mahsud Mulla, the Mulla Powindah, a truce of a kind has been made between most sections of the Darwesh Khels and the Mahsuds. The Mulla, who is already the acknowledged leader of the "tuman" or popular party of the Mahsuds against the *ex*-Maliks, is steadily increasing his influence amongst the Darwesh Khel Wazirs, and already poses as the master of Waziristan.

#### WANA.

25. The Mahsuds as a tribe behaved satisfactorily. Very few offences Mahsuds. for which the tribe could justly be held accountable were committed, and for these reparation was given. The dissension between the *ex*-Maliks and

the tuman shows signs of coming to a head, as the latter are much dissatisfied with their present insignificance, while the tuman watches them with a jealous eye.

**Wazirs (Dar-wesh Khel).**

26. The Darwesh Khels did not give much cause for complaint, but a source of possible trouble exists among them in Mulla Hamzullah, Bizan Khel, of Shakai, whose preaching is most inflammatory. Another disturbing element is the Shadikai outlaw Mianji, who lives in Birmal. He was responsible for a murder near Sarwakai during the year, and since then, in co-operation with other outlaws of Birmal, has been at the bottom of the series of grave offences which has disturbed the peace of the country.

**Powindas.**

27. The Powinda immigration was conducted without loss.

**Militia.**

28. Mention has already been made of the causes which led to the regrettable deaths of Captain Bowring and Colonel Harman, in whom Government has lost most valuable servants. After the second murder the Mahsud element in the Militia was disbanded as utterly untrustworthy. By agreement with the tribe Mahsuds are now being taken back into the Militia in small numbers and under security of good behaviour; but very few of the old Militia men are returning. Other elements in the Militia—especially those recruited from the Darwesh Khels, Bhittanis and other local tribes—did excellent service.

**Gomal Road.**

29. At one time the Gomal road seemed likely to prove a cause of trouble with the Mahsuds, who themselves refused the terms offered by the Military Works Services and appeared inclined to resent the introduction of other contractors. In time, however, they became more reasonable and provided escorts for the working parties throughout the winter. Good progress was made with the road work.

**DERA ISMAIL KHAN.**

30. The year on this border was quiet: the Bhittanis were too busy with their feud with the Mahsuds to give Government any trouble, while the Sherannis are taking to agriculture and settling down quietly. The Sheranni outlaw Ahmad Khan visited Sheranni country once, and to his gang is attributed the murder of two Border Military Police sepoys. The tribe was fined for letting the gang pass, but Ahmad Khan does not enjoy the sympathies of his fellow clansmen.

**10. Condition of the People.**

31. Times were distinctly good and the people more prosperous than in the preceding year. In the rabi harvest of 1904 an area, hitherto unprecedented, was sown and reaped, and this bumper harvest was followed by a kharif considerably above the average, and a rabi only inferior to that of 1904. Prices were generally lower than they have been for 20 years, and in all districts large stocks of grain are still accumulated. Neighbouring countries began to recover from the distress of the years 1901—1903, and the increase in their purchasing power was accompanied by a noticeable expansion in the volume of external trade.

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## CHAPTER II.

# ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND.

### 1. Realization of the Revenue.

[Further details will be found in the Provincial Report on the Administration of Land Revenue for 1903-04 (Government Press, North-West Frontier Province) and in the Agricultural Statistics of British India for 1903-04.]

32. *Fixed Land Revenue.*—The fixed land revenue demand for the year 1903-04 amounted to Rs. 15,92,824, of which Rs. 15,80,554—or 99·23 per cent.—were collected as against Rs. 15,71,136 out of a demand of Rs. 16,02,241—98 per cent.—in the previous year. The decrease in the demand (Rs. 9,417) is due to the extension under the new settlement of the system of fluctuating assessment in Dera Ismail Khan, which outweighs the increase of Rs. 38,290 in the fixed demand payable according to the new assessment of the Kohat and Hangu tahsils, and the small increases in other districts due to gains by alluvion and resumption of assignments. The outstanding balance at the close of the year (30th September 1904) was Rs. 12,270 as against Rs. 31,105 at the close of the previous year, and Rs. 67,936 at the end of 1901-02. Of the outstanding balance only Rs. 3,429 is recoverable, and the whole of this sum was due in the Kohat District, where the introduction of a new assessment in two tahsils was accompanied by some delay in determining the distribution of the demand. Only Rs. 360, however, remained uncollected by the end of 1904. All other districts show a clean sheet; Peshawar, it is believed, for the first time since annexation.

As a result of better harvests and greater energy in collection, Rs. 42,402 were realized on account of former years as compared with Rs. 31,139 realized under this head in the previous year.

33. *Suspensions and Remissions.*—Only Rs. 4,746 of the current demand were suspended as against Rs. 28,603 in 1902-03. The amount under suspension at the beginning of the year was Rs. 1,18,335. Of this, Rs. 41,666 were collected and Rs. 46,006 were remitted in the Tank Tahsil of the Dera Ismail Khan District by the orders of the Government of India on the introduction of the new fluctuating assessment. The sum under suspension at the close of the year was thus reduced to Rs. 35,409.

34. *Fluctuating Land Revenue.*—The demand was Rs. 1,66,672 as compared with Rs. 1,13,481, and Rs. 1,66,098 were collected as against Rs. 1,11,814 in 1902-03. The increase is due to the extension of the principle of fluctuating demand in the Dera Ismail Khan District, which has been already mentioned.

Of the current year's outstanding balance—Rs. 574—Rs. 304 were realized and Rs. 65 struck off as irrecoverable after the close of the year.

35. *Miscellaneous Land Revenue.*—The demand under this head was Rs. 69,931, of which Rs. 43,947 were on account of grazing dues or *tirni*, as against Rs. 65,871 in the previous year, of which Rs. 40,291 were on account of *tirni*. Rs. 4,010 remained uncollected at the close of the year. The enhancement of *tirni* rates in the Kohat District caused the realizations there to fall from Rs. 5,940 to Rs. 4,551, proving the success of the enhancement in its main object—the discouragement of the annual Ghilzai immigration. *Tirni* receipts in Dera Ismail Khan rose from Rs. 34,351 to Rs. 38,193. A system of extensive fraud carried on by collusion between the enumerating Muharrirs and the Powindas was detected in this district during the year. The guilty parties were suitably punished.

36. The total value of the assigned land revenue was Rs. 3,89,801 (18 per cent. of the total demand) at the close of the year as compared with Rs. 3,81,671 at the close of 1902-03. The increase is mainly explained by the Resumptions of Land Revenue Assignments.

general enhancement of the revenue in Kohat. The jagir of the late Afzal Khan, Khattak, of Jamalgarhi in the Peshawar District, of an annual value of Rs. 1,037, was resumed in August 1903 on the death of the original grantee, who left no worthy successor.

**Coercive processes for the recovery of land revenue.** 37. 4,142 processes were issued as against 4,682 last year. The decrease is confined to the Kohat, Bannu and Dera Ismail Khan districts; Peshawar and Hazara continuing unpunctual in payment.

**Other matters under the Land Revenue Act.** 38. The revenue money order system exists only in Kohat and Dera Ismail Khan. Payments by this means fell in Kohat from Rs. 21,005 to Rs. 9,822 and rose in Dera Ismail Khan from Rs. 5,245 to Rs. 8,381.

The chief obstacle to the extension of the system is that large sums of money cannot at present be kept at rural Post Offices or carried by postal peons without risk of robbery.

**Advances under Acts XIX of 1883 and XII of 1884.** 39. The total amount outstanding under both Acts was at the beginning of the year Rs. 1,03,458, and Rs. 76,110 more were advanced. Rs. 71,461 fell due during the year on account of principal, and of this Rs. 57,622 were recovered as compared with Rs. 67,815 out of Rs. 84,931 in 1902-03. Out of a total demand of Rs. 6,214 on account of interest Rs. 4,853 were collected. The outstanding balances are heaviest in Kohat and Dera Ismail Khan, in one of which districts the land revenue demand has recently been largely enhanced, while the other is only beginning to recover from five lean years.

The figures prove the growing popularity of the takavi system, and it is satisfactory to note that a considerable portion of the sums advanced are, especially in the Kohat District, being expended in the construction of such solid improvements as wells, irrigation embankments and tanks.

**Local Rates.** 40. The demand for the current year rose from Rs. 2,26,146 to Rs. 2,32,801 in 1902-03 as a result of the increase of the land revenue.

## 2. Surveys.

**General.**

41. The methods and working of the Survey Department in the Province were under examination during the year, and the results of the enquiry have been laid before the Special Committee appointed by the Government of India.

**Settlement surveys.**

42. In Hazara the Settlement survey of the district has been completed and stone pillars have been erected on the base lines. The protected area of village forests is also being demarcated, and under Section 101 A of the Punjab Land Revenue Act a permanent boundary on the Indus between Hazara and Peshawar has been defined. The boundary between the Peshawar District and the Attock District of the Punjab has also been permanently fixed by joint action with the Punjab Government, and the boundary between Aza Khel and the Hassan Khel Afridis was relaid. In Kohat the survey of the Orakzai villages on the southern slopes of the Samana has been finished, and the plateau near Thal, on which is situate the estate known as Chapri Waziran, has been measured for the first time.

In Bannu, where Settlement operations began in October 1903, 330,000 acres—nearly one-third of the district—were mapped during the year, and base line pillars are being set up.

**Departmental operations.**

43. In Dera Ismail Khan a survey party has been at work in the riverain tract, the topography of which has been much altered in recent years by the Indus.

A section of No. 15 Survey Party has been engaged in triangulation on both sides of the frontier as a preliminary to the detailed survey of the tribal territory between the Kurram and Gomal rivers.

## 3. Settlements.

44. Settlement operations were in progress during the year in all the General districts of the Province except Peshawar, and in April 1904 were also begun in the Kurram Agency. The Hazara, Kohat and Dera Ismail Khan Settlements, which had been begun before the separation of the Province, were kept under the control of the Settlement Commissioner, Punjab, while the Bannu Settlement, which began on October 1st, 1903, has, like the Kurram Settlement, from the first been under the direction of the Revenue Commissioner. At the request of the Punjab Government the control of the Kohat Settlement was also transferred from the Settlement Commissioner to that officer in December 1903.

45. *Measurements.*—During the Settlement 1,388,000 acres have Kohat. been remeasured or for the first time surveyed, while for the remaining 328,500 acres of the district the old maps have been corrected. The Settlement maps of this district have been brought to a high degree of accuracy.

*Record of Rights.*—The records of 101 villages were attested during the year, and only 10 villages remained to have their records attested at the close of the year. 93,296 mutations have been attested since Settlement began, and only 891 were pending on the 30th September last.

*Assessment.*—The new assessments of the Kohat and Hangu tahsils, involving a present increase of about 40 per cent. on the gross revenue demand, were brought into effect from kharif 1903. When all the progressive enhancements become payable, the increase will be 43·3 per cent., but the demand will still fall short of the half net assets standard. The new mill assessments came into effect from kharif 1904. Orders on the Settlement Officer's proposals for the re-assessment of the Teri Tahsil were passed in October 1904, thus completing the re-assessment of the district.

It is expected that the report on revenue-free grants, the District Gazetteer and the final Settlement report will be completed this summer, on the return of the Settlement Officer from special duty with the Survey Committee.

46. *Measurements and Record of Rights.*—Measurements began in Bannu. December 1903, and despite the difficulties arising from the peculiar conditions of the Marwat Tahsil, where owing to the shifting sands an annual redetermination of field boundaries is necessary, a field-to-field survey of 135 out of 372 villages was completed by the end of the year. Of the completed villages the papers of 116 were finally attested, and their jamabandis have been prepared according to the new measurements. Two-thirds of the khatauni attestation work were also completed. In the Bannu Tahsil holdings are often very small and rights in land and water very complex, so that progress is necessarily slower.

47. The revision of the Summary Settlement of the Kurram, which Kurram had been sanctioned for ten years from 1894, began on April 1st, 1904. Nearly half the cultivated area, to which operations have been confined, was surveyed, and the records of 32 out of 64 completed villages were attested by the end of the year. The records of the Summary Settlement were found so defective that possession was taken as the basis of the present Settlement. Great difficulty was experienced in surveying and measuring the small irregular terraced fields, and Settlement operations will probably last a little longer than was at first anticipated, but the present year should see them completed. The ordinary revenue law is not in force in Kurram, which is outside the administrative border of British India. Cases are settled by oath in accordance with Turizuna, or local custom.

48. The measurements in this mountainous district—a work of great difficulty—have at last been completed. The Assessment Reports of the Haripur and Mansehra tahsils were submitted during the year, and orders were passed on them in November and December 1904. The increase in Mansehra, inclusive of mill assessments, amounts to Rs. 73,000 per annum, almost doubling the old demand. In Haripur the enhancement, exclusive of mill assessments, is about Rs. 73,500, an increase of 50 per cent. The assessment under revision had been in force for more than 30 years, and was from the first very lenient.

49. The Settlement Officer's proposals for the re-assessment of the Daman tract (the Kulachi Tahsil and the upland portion of the Dera Ismail Khan Tahsil) were not received till after the close of the year. Orders have since been passed on them, but the new assessments do not take effect till the rabi of 1905. This completes the re-assessment of the Dera Ismail Khan District, but several subsidiary questions, e. g., the assignments of land revenue, reorganization of the revenue establishment, completion of the record of rights in water, the final Settlement report, and the revision of the District Gazetteer, have still to be disposed of.

The present occasion cannot be suffered to pass without an expression of regret for the death in May 1905 of Captain Crosthwaite, Settlement Officer, Dera Ismail Khan, in whom Government lost an officer of great ability and promise.

#### 4. Land Records.

**Establishment.** 50. 707 Patwaris are employed in this Province, and there are 584 accepted candidates for employment, of whom 15 have passed the Entrance and 186 the Middle School Examination. 58 vacancies occurred during the year amongst Patwaris, which were filled by the appointment from among the candidates of 32 Muhammadans of agricultural tribes and 26 Hindus and Sikhs. The lack of education among the first mentioned class makes it difficult to find suitable men from among them. During the year 9 Patwaris and Assistants were dismissed, 3 resigned, and 20 were promoted. Under the strict supervision which Settlement entails, the conduct and efficiency of the Patwari staff were fairly good.

32 candidates for the post of Kanungo were accepted during the year, of whom 23 belonged to agricultural tribes. After the 25 appointments which fell vacant during the year had been filled the total number of candidates was 136. The prospects of Kanungos in this Province are good, and a high standard of education is rightly demanded from candidates.

**Mutation Work.** 51. 141,247 mutations were attested and 33,625 remained pending at the end of the year as compared with 133,940 attested and 26,417 left pending at the close of 1902-03. No less than 68,829 of the year's mutations were attested in Hazara—a significant testimony as to the state of the old records.

These figures are not directly affected by the introduction of the Land Alienation Act, as the annual records of 1903-04 do not include those transfers on which orders had not been passed before it came into force.

**Business Returns.**

52. Owing mainly to the beginning of Settlement in Bannu the number of Revenue officers employed in the Province rose from 103 to 122. These disposed of 23,273 revenue cases of all classes as compared with 22,223, the outturn of the previous year. The number of cases left pending rose slightly from 2,258 to 2,369. The increase is confined to the Hazara District.

#### 5. Government waste lands.

**Hazara.**

53. The revised rules for the management of village forests in the Hazara District have so far worked smoothly. A proposal is under consideration to revive in this district the grazing tax on sheep and goats, which is already in force in parts of Kohat and Peshawar. It is hoped that the destruction of village forests will by this means be retarded.

**Khwarra Zira.**

54. The income from the Khwarra Zira forests under the management of the Deputy Commissioner, Peshawar, was Rs. 8,709 (an increase of Rs. 1,336) and the expenditure Rs. 7,274, while the total revenue from unclassed forests (from which head the Zira forest is now excluded) rose from Rs. 15,119 to Rs. 17,550.

## 6. Wards' Estates.

55. At the beginning of the year four estates, all situate in the Extensions of Peshawar District, were under the management of the Court of Wards. Three new estates were taken under management, *viz.*,

- (1) The estate of the exiled Khan of Agror. This estate is, strictly speaking, not under the Court of Wards' management, but is controlled by the Deputy Commissioner, Hazara, under the Agror Valley Regulation.
- (2) and (3) The estates of the late Muhammad Hassan Khan, Gandapur, and of his brother Mahmud Khan of the Dera Ismail Khan District.

Three of the five sons of the late Mir Rahman Khan of Shabkadar *Alterations.* attained majority during the year. Their shares in the family estate were determined by partition and released from control.

Amir Muhammad Khan of Shabkadar died on 17th June 1904, but, at the request of the heir, his son, the Court of Wards' management was continued.

The total assets of the estates under management were Rs. 2,37,563 *Assets and liabilities.* and the total liabilities Rs. 34,938. One estate only is in debt, that of the late Amir Muhammad Khan of Shabkadar, which at the close of the year showed a deficit of Rs. 27,755 as against Rs. 30,364 at the close of the previous year. The Mohmand tenants of this estate, who pass the summer in independent territory, are most unreasonably stubborn. They will not pay rent without coercion, and are very difficult to coerce.

The gross income of all the estates was Rs. 90,774 and their expenditure *Income and expenditure.* Rs. 93,586. The latter sum includes Rs. 30,000 invested in Government securities on behalf of the estate of Muhammad Hassan Khan.

The expenses of management were Rs. 3,618—about 4 per cent. of the gross income. Of this sum Rs. 1,859 were spent in the maintenance of establishment.

## 7. Revenue and Rent paying Classes.

56. The Punjab Land Alienation Act as modified by Regulation I of *Legislation* 1904 was brought into force in the Hazara, Bannu and Dera Ismail Khan *affecting agricultural population.* districts with effect from 23rd June 1904. Its provisions are not confined to proprietary rights, but have been extended to occupancy rights. The working of the Act will be discussed in next year's report.

57. The area in acres of land transferred during the year is compared *Transfers of land.* in the following table with the figures for 1901-02 and 1902-03:

		1901-02.	1902-03.	1903-04.
By gift or exchange	...	26,189	35,913	22,882
By mortgage	...	120,142	99,380	74,063
By sale	...	74,583	66,043	57,270
By redemption of mortgage	...	88,754	67,666	184,074

1903-04 was a good year, and the above satisfactory increases and decreases are partly due to the general agricultural prosperity, but to the partition of the Gandapur tribal estate in Dera Ismail Khan the increase in the area redeemed in that district (149,449 acres as against 17,167) must be mainly attributed.

Consideration. The average consideration per cultivated acre was—in mortgages Rs. 57, in redemptions Rs. 23, in sales Rs. 64, as against Rs. 50, Rs. 48 and Rs. 74, respectively, in 1902-03.

Transfers to new agriculturists and by order of Court or otherwise to new agriculturists. Of the area transferred by mortgage and sale 13 per cent. was alienated by order of Court. But though alienations of land as a whole are serious enough, it cannot be said that the true agriculturists are being ousted by traders and money-lenders.

## CHAPTER III. PROTECTION.

### 1. Legislative Authority.

(See page 35 of the Report for the period 9th November 1901 to 31st March 1903.)

### 2. Course of Legislation.

58. Besides the Border Military Police Act (No. IV of 1904) mentioned in last year's report only one measure affecting the North-West Frontier Province was passed during the year under review by the Supreme Legislative Council. This was the Indian Universities Act (No. VIII of 1904).

Three Regulations having the force of law were made by the Supreme Executive Council, *viz.*,

- (1) No. I of 1904, for the extension of the Punjab Alienation of Land Act (No. XIII of 1900) with certain modifications to the districts of Hazara, Bannu and Dera Ismail Khan in the North-West Frontier Province.
- (2) Regulation No. III of 1904, further to amend the law relating to the tenancy of land in the Hazara District, so as to empower the Settlement Officer to fix cash rents payable by occupancy tenants in terms of the land revenue.
- (3) Regulation No. V of 1904, to make better provision for the law relating to Courts of Wards in the North-West Frontier Province by the extension with necessary modifications of the Punjab Court of Wards Act.

Besides these, the provisions of the Indian Articles of War were declared applicable in the trans-frontier posts of Chitral and Drosh, and those of Sections 31 and 35 of the Indian Police Act (No. V of 1861) were extended to the Notified Area of Dungagali and Nathiagali.

### 3. Police.

[Further details will be found in the Provincial Police Administration Report for 1904 (Government Press, North-West Frontier Province) and in the Judicial and Administrative Statistics of British India for 1904-05, Section VII.]

59. 9,774 cognizable offences were reported during the year as against 9,512 in 1903. These figures do not, however, indicate any real increase in crime, for whereas in 1903 of the reports made 6,256 referred to offences under the Indian Penal Code, only 6,052 of the reports made in 1904 related to such offences. The increase in point of fact is practically confined to petty matters such as nuisances and breaches of the Cantonment Act.

60. It appears that little cognizable crime is brought to light other-  
wise than through the agency of the Police. Of the complaints made with reference to offences under the Indian Penal Code—6,052 in all—3,855 were made direct to the Police, and of these 1,348 or 34 per cent. resulted in conviction. While of the 2,197 complaints to Magistrates of cognizable offences, in only 146 or 6 per cent. were convictions obtained.

61. The number of murders committed was 152 as against 180 in 1903, 192 in 1902, and 214 in 1901. There was also a decrease in the number of dacoities, robberies, burglaries, thefts, and other classes of serious crime.

62. 194 cases under the Arms Act ended in conviction as against 254 offences under the previous year. Ten breech-loading rifles were lost or stolen during the Arms Act.

Stolen property.

63. The value of the property stolen in 1904 was estimated at Rs. 1,08,955 as against Rs. 98,571 in 1903. The proportion recovered also rose from 35 to 40 per cent.

Bad characters.

64. 656 persons were ordered to furnish security for good behaviour under the provisions of the Code of Criminal Procedure as against 677 in 1903.

Punitive Posts.

65. The Karbogha Punitive Police Post, of which the annual cost is Rs. 1,412, has been continued, and two similar posts have been sanctioned for certain areas in the Teri and Karak tracts of the same country. At the close of the year these were the only Punitive Police Posts in the Province.

66. 52 outlaws surrendered themselves or were arrested during the year and 862 still remain at large. The number is being steadily reduced.

Internal economy of the Police Force.

67. An increase of 1 Sub-Inspector, 2 Head Constables, and 12 Constables was sanctioned during the year, and the total cost of the Force was Rs. 6,08,044 as against Rs. 5,86,733 in 1903. The health of the Force was generally good, except in Peshawar, where the Police buildings are generally old and dilapidated. Discipline and conduct were satisfactory; but the large number of resignations without pension or gratuity—213 out of a total strength of 3,167 below the rank of Inspector—proves the unpopularity of service in the Police. The recruiting difficulty is more acute than ever, and unless some steps are shortly taken to render police service more attractive will produce a deadlock.

#### 4. Criminal Justice.

[Further details will be found in the Criminal Administration Report of the Province for 1904 (Government Press, North-West Frontier Province) and in the Judicial and Administrative Statistics of British India for 1904-05, Section IV.]

General.

68. The decrease in crime which has been in evidence since the inauguration of the Province and the working of the agencies for the repression of crime are illustrated in the following table:—

YEAR.	1 Number of offences reported.	2 Number returned as true.	3 Relation per cent. between figures in columns 3 and 2.	4 Number of cases brought to trial.	5 Number of cases disposed of during the year.	6 Number of persons under trial during the year.	7 Number discharged or acquitted.	8 Relation per cent. between figures in columns 8 and 7.	10 REMARKS.
1901 ...	20,247	15,700	76	14,987	14,117	36,642	19,055	53	
1902 ...	21,095	15,235	72	18,947	13,828	31,532	15,785	51	
1903 ...	18,219	13,255	73	12,497	12,416	28,237	18,733	49	
1904 ...	17,959	18,247	74	12,491	12,406	27,909	14,283	51	

This decrease is most noticeable in the classes of offences described as heinous. For example, as against 213 murders, 41 cases of culpable homicide, 73 robberies, 54 dacoities, 1,141 thefts, and 141 cases of riot committed in 1901, the corresponding figures for 1904 were 141 murders, 25 culpable homicides, 39 robberies, 46 dacoities, 912 thefts and 119 cases of riot. Of the dacoities committed in 1904 more than half were the work of trans-border gangs. The decrease in serious crime is shared by all districts, though perhaps it is most remarkable in Peshawar, where it amounts to no less than 14 per cent. in the number of offences admitted to have occurred.

Strength and work of the Magistracy.

69. The number of officers invested with criminal powers at the end of 1904 was 103. As usual the returns for 1904 show that it is only by unremitting supervision that the higher authorities can keep the subordinate and Native magistracy alive to the importance of a free, but judicious, use of Sections 203 and 250 of the Code of Criminal Procedure and the salutary provisions of the Whipping Act.

Cases in which security is taken to keep the peace or to abstain from the prosecution of a blood feud require careful handling by Magistrates dealing with a Pathan community, but that greater discrimination is now being used is shown by the diminution in all districts in the number of persons required to furnish such security, and, notwithstanding this diminution, the steady decrease in violent crime.

There was no noteworthy fluctuation in the outturn of work done by the different classes of Magistrates.

70. The number of persons who appealed to District Magistrates rose Appeals and from 627 in 1903 to 728 in 1904, while 870 appeals were preferred in the Sessions Courts in 1904 as against 785 in 1903. 41 per cent. of the appeals lodged before District Magistrates and 36 per cent. of those made to Sessions Judges resulted in a reversal or modification of the orders appealed against. Sentences were enhanced on appeal in the case of 25 persons as against 28 in 1903. These figures prove the moderation with which this very valuable power is exercised.

71. The two Sessions Courts disposed of 65 Sessions cases, 642 criminal Sessions Courts. appeals, and 157 applications for revision. The average duration of Sessions cases was 27 days in Peshawar and 51 days in the Derajat, and of criminal appeals 12 days in the Derajat and 13 in Peshawar.

72. The volume of the Judicial Commissioner's criminal work was rather less in 1904 than in 1903, but about the same as in 1902. Capital sentences passed by Courts of Session were confirmed in the case of 18 persons and commuted in the case of 4 persons; one man was acquitted and one died while his appeal was pending. Four murder references were also received from the Courts of Political Agents; in two of these the capital sentence was confirmed and in the other two commuted. The average duration of criminal appeals in this Court was again 34 days.

73. References to Councils of Elders were made under Section 11 of this Regulation in 189 cases during the year as against 355 in 1903 and 240 in 1902. The figures for 1903 were inflated on account of the large number of outlaws who surrendered themselves in that year and were tried by this procedure. Of the 618 persons thus tried in 1904, 302 or 49 per cent. were convicted.

## 5. Prisons.

[Further details will be found in the Report on the Administration of Jails of the Province for 1904 and in the Judicial and Administrative Statistics of British India for 1904-05, Section V.]

74. The beginning of the year found in the jails a convict population of 1,061, of whom 46 were women. During 1904 there were 3,366 admissions as against 3,857 in 1903, and after deduction on account of convicts released, transferred, executed and deceased there remained at the end of the year 1,065. Of the convicts admitted 94 per cent. were Muhammadans and 98·5 per cent. were wholly illiterate; 288 (9 per cent.) had previous convictions recorded against them, and 203 were identified as habitual offenders. 24 juvenile offenders, 4 of whom had been previously convicted, were sentenced to imprisonment. As in 1903, 21 persons were sentenced to death, of whom 16—as against 17 in the previous year—were executed.

75. 202 persons were confined in the jails and judicial lock-ups of the Province at the beginning of the year awaiting trial and 4,053 were admitted during the year as compared with 4,914 in 1903. On 31st December 1904, 164 were left whose cases were still under disposal.

76. 129 civil prisoners were confined in 1904 as against 124 in 1903. Civil prisoners.

77. The daily average of prisoners of all classes was 1,396 as against 1,280 in 1903. As is shown by the decrease in the number of admissions, the increase is not due to a greater tendency to crime among the population of the Daily average. Jail population. Province.

Accommodation.

78. The accommodation in the provincial jails remained unchanged. There was no overcrowding in the Dera Ismail Khan Jail, but the Peshawar, Bannu and Kohat District Jails were overcrowded on nineteen, twenty-one and ninety days respectively, while a large number of political détenus caused the Abbottabad Jail to be over-filled on 184 days. But the evil was everywhere reduced to smaller proportions than in 1903, and no harm to the health of the prisoners can be traced to this cause.

Vital Statistics.

79. The death-rate among the jail population fell in 1904 from 15·66 to 14·69, while it rose among the free population from 28·40 to 28·56.

Establishment.

80. The departmental establishment continued to behave well on the whole. Offences numbered 187 as against 194 in 1903 and 222 in 1902. Two warders were dismissed for serious offences against prison discipline.

Conduct and Discipline.

81. There were no escapes or attempts at escape, but the number of offences against prison discipline rose from 1,207 to 1,502—almost the same figure as in 1903. 1,102 minor punishments were inflicted as against 907 in 1903 and 456 major punishments as compared with 310. Twelve whippings were inflicted—the same number as in 1903.

Expenditure.

82. The total expenditure of the Jail Department was Rs. 81,891 as against Rs. 82,017 in 1903, increases under the heads Establishment, Medicines, Clothing, &c., being more than balanced by savings in dietary charges due to lower prices. Vegetables to the value of Rs. 3,303 were supplied from jail gardens for the prisoners' consumption. The average gross cost to Government per prisoner was Rs. 67·1·5—13 annas 7 pies less than in the previous year.

Employment of convicts.

83. 143 prisoners in all were employed as prison officers, and of these punishments were inflicted on 54. There was an increase of 97 in the average number of prisoners under sentence of labour on working days, with the result that the sum paid into the Treasury on account of manufactures rose from Rs. 26,680 to Rs. 28,609, while the net cash earnings of prisoners amounted to Rs. 9,374—an increase of Rs. 2,290. Indirect profits from the employment of convicts also rose from Rs. 22,880 to Rs. 25,130. The Dera Ismail Khan Jail supplied all the cotton clothing and bedding mats required for use in the jails of the Province. While no jail industry was carried on at a loss, paper-making and lithographic printing were again the most profitable.

## 6. Civil Justice.

[Further details will be found in the Report on the Administration of Civil Justice of the Province for 1904 (Government Press, North-West Frontier Province) and in the Judicial and Administrative Statistics of British India for 1904-05, Section III.]

Institutions and nature of suits.

84. 21,075 civil suits of all kinds were instituted in 1904 as against 19,325 in the preceding year. Of these, 16,877 as compared with 15,344 in 1903 were for money or moveable property, while title and other suits numbered 4,198 as against 3,981. The increase is mainly accounted for by the district of Hazara, in which the institution of original suits rose from 1,974 to 3,472. The increase was chiefly in suits to recover petty amounts on the closure of current accounts between zamindars and village money-lenders, and is ascribed to the approaching completion of the Settlement and to the extension to the district of the Punjab Land Alienation Act, as to the effects of which much apprehension and misapprehension existed.

Despite this great increase, Hazara, where the number of institutions per 10,000 of the population is 86, remains the least litigious district in the Province. In Bannu the proportion is as high as 173, and for the whole Province it is 105. Comparison with the most recent returns from other provinces shows that, despite the special machinery provided in the Frontier Crimes Regulation for the settlement of disputes, the people of the North-West Frontier Province are more addicted to civil litigation than those of any other province with the possible exception of the Punjab.

There was an increase from 698 to 797 in the number of pre-emption cases and from 241 to 311 in matrimonial suits.

85. Of the 20,970 suits of which the value could be determined, 4,197 Value of suits. or 20 per cent. did not exceed Rs. 10 in value; 13,131 or 63 per cent. were over Rs. 10, but under Rs. 100 in value; while only 674 or 3 per cent. exceeded Rs. 500.

The total value of all suits has steadily increased from Rs. 19,16,367 in 1902 and Rs. 20,33,214 in 1903 to Rs. 25,06,450 in the year under report, in which the average value of each suit was Rs. 120 as compared with Rs. 105 in 1903 and Rs. 102 in 1902.

86. The following table shows the strength of the agency available at Agency for the disposal of original civil business. the close of the year and the number of suits of which each class of that agency has disposed during the past two years:—

GRADE OF OFFICERS.	Number of officers at close of year.		Number of cases disposed of.		Percentage to total disposals.		REMARKS.
	1903.	1904.	1903.	1904.	1903	1904.	
Divisional Judges	...	...	2	2	4	8	...
District Judges	...	...	4	4	243	241	1·1
Sub-Judges with appellate powers	...	...	1	1	44	57	·2
Assistant Commissioners	...	...	11	9	437	696	2·1
Extra Assistant Commissioners	...	15	16	1,303	1,301	6·2	5·7
Small Cause Court Judges	...	1	2	593	630	2·8	2·8
Munsifs	...	...	6	6	14,667	15,189	69·5
Tahsildars	...	...	16	16	2,380	2,568	11·3
Naib Tahsildars	...	2	2	205	335	1·0	1·5
Honorary Civil Judges	...	8	7	1,226	1,607	5·8	7·1
Total	...	65	65	21,102	22,632	100	100

These Courts decided 22,632 suits out of 24,542 for disposal. 4,598 cases were disposed of without trial; 4,740 by compromise, and 527 after reference to arbitration. The pending file at the end of the year showed 1,910 cases awaiting decision as against 2,011 at the close of 1903 and 2,320 at the close of 1902. The average duration of contested cases has also fallen from 42 days in 1902 to 35 in 1904.

87. District Judges and the Sub-Judge with appellate powers disposed of 645 appeals as against 486 in 1903. The increase is due to the larger volume of civil litigation in the Hazara District.

Divisional Courts disposed of 851 regular and 79 miscellaneous appeals as against 951 and 83 in 1903. Of the regular appeals 613 were decided in the Peshawar Divisional Court. At the close of the year there were only 7 regular appeals in both Divisional Courts which had been pending for over three months. The average duration of appeals was 53 days in Peshawar and 56 in the Derajat.

88. The civil business before the Judicial Commissioner's Court during the year was—

		Appeals from original decrees.	Appeals from appellate decrees.	Miscellaneous appeals.	Applications for revision.
For disposal	...	...	15	34	27
Disposed of	...	...	14	31	28

The average duration of regular appeals was 90 days.

Execution.

89. The Courts disposed of 15,496 applications for execution of decrees out of 17,125 presented. In 1903, 16,145 applications were presented and 14,424 were disposed of. Of the applications lodged in 1904, 31 per cent. were satisfied in full and 17 per cent. in part as compared with 30 per cent. satisfied in full and 13 per cent. in part during 1903. Rs. 11,48,458 are shown as having been under realization by decree, of which Rs. 3,53,888 or 31 per cent. were realized. The percentage in 1903 was 28.

### 7. Registration.

[Further information will be found in the Report on the Administration of the Registration Department of the Province for 1904 (Government Press, North-West Frontier Province) and in the Judicial and Administrative Statistics of British India for 1904-05, Section IX.]

Introductory.  
Legislation  
affecting regis-  
stration.

90. The report here summarised deals with the three calendar years 1902, 1903, 1904. The extension of the Punjab Land Alienation Act to the districts of Hazara, Bannu and Dera Ismail Khan has had an appreciable effect on the registration work of the Province, although more than 60 per cent. of it is accounted for by the districts of Kohat and Peshawar, in which the Act is not in force.

Business.

91. The total number of registrations affecting immoveable property and the value of the property affected by these during the three years reviewed is shown in the following table :—

				Compulsory.	Optional.	Total.	Value of property.
1902	...	...	...	7,196	809	9,005	47 lakhs.
1903	...	...	...	7,554	1,874	9,428	50 „
1904	...	...	...	6,573	571	8,144	46 „

The decrease is mainly due to the extension of the Land Alienation Act, and in the case of deeds transferring rights in immoveable property of a less value than Rs. 100, of which registration is optional, to a more general appreciation of the significance of Judgment No. 56 of 1900 of the Punjab Chief Court, in which it was ruled that a registered deed of this class had not necessarily preference over an unregistered deed.

The total value of immoveable property sold and mortgaged under registered deeds during the period under review was 122 lakhs—almost the same as in the previous triennium.

Agency.

92. No new registry office was opened between 1902 and 1904.

Finance.

93. The receipts of the Department amounted to Rs. 27,813—a decrease of Rs. 3,562 from the previous year's income. Expenditure also fell from Rs. 8,606 to Rs. 8,181.

Fraud.

94. A case of attempted personation occurred in the Bannu District in 1904. The fraud was detected before registration, and the guilty parties on conviction were suitably punished.

### 8. District Boards.

[Further details will be found in the Provincial Report on the working of District Boards for 1903-04 and in the Judicial and Administrative Statistics of British India for 1903-04, Section XVIII.]

Constitution.

95. There was no change during the year under review in the constitution, number or jurisdiction of the District Boards.

96. All District Boards held the required number of meetings, and the Working. average attendance was 51 per cent. of the members as against 46 per cent. in the previous year. The non-official members are everywhere, except Hazara, described as apathetic. In Hazara the average attendance (70 per cent.) is good, and the apathy of the leading men has been overcome by the policy of discussing with them practical problems of administration in their local bearing. It is hoped that similar means may have equally satisfactory results elsewhere.

All District Boards now have Finance Sub-Committees, which were generally reported to have worked well. But the system of Sub-Committees for the control of other matters such as Works, Arboriculture and Education does not seem to have been an unqualified success.

For the rest the working of District Boards was on the whole satisfactory, and in no case was it necessary to over-rule or set aside their proceedings.

97. The collective balance to the credit of the five District Boards was Finance. at the beginning of the year Rs. 71,330, their united income was Rs. 2,25,994, their expenditure Rs. 2,32,608, and their closing balance Rs. 64,716. In no case did the balance fall below the prescribed minimum and no District Board overdrew its balance. The expenditure under the head "Education" fell short of the requisite proportion in Bannu and Dera Ismail Khan and under the head "Medical" in Kohat, but for the Province as a whole expenditure on both accounts was well above the prescribed minimum. Six new Primary and one Anglo-Vernacular School were opened.

### 9. Municipalities.

[ Further details will be found in the Provincial Report on the working of Municipalities for 1903-04 and in the Judicial and Administrative Statistics of British India for 1903-04, Section XVII. ]

98. The Nathiagali and Dungagali Hill Locations in the Hazara Constitution. District were constituted a Notified Area in November 1903. No changes were made in existing Municipalities.

99. The working of the larger Municipalities has generally been Working. good. But in the small outlying towns to which Local Self-Government has been extended the apathy of the non-official members, only broken when opportunity offers for the display of faction feeling or partiality, the lack of supervision over the subordinate establishment, and the consequent diminution of their revenues, afford but little ground for satisfaction.

All Municipal Committees, except Bannu and Lakki, held the required number of meetings, and the attendance was in most cases satisfactory.

100. The aggregate opening balance of all Municipalities and the Finance. Tank Notified Area was Rs. 2,03,931, their income Rs. 5,10,319, expenditure Rs. 5,25,543 (including Rs. 30,000 invested by the Kohat Municipality), and closing balance Rs. 1,88,707. Of the income Rs. 3,76,412 were derived from octroi, and the average incidence of taxation per head of the Municipal population was just under Rs. 2 per head per annum.

The main heads of expenditure and the proportion devoted to each are shown below:—

General Administration	...	...	...	10·2
Public safety	...	...	...	17·8
„ Health and Convenience	...	...	...	48·9
„ Instruction	...	...	...	10·8
Contribution	...	...	...	6·1
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	5·7
Debt	...	...	...	·5
Total	...	100		

## 10. Military.

Recruiting.

101. 1,190 recruits were enlisted from among the inhabitants of the North-West Frontier Province during 1904-05 as against 1,476 in 1903-04. The Frontier Militia Corps have now opened up several new sources of supply, of which the most important are the Mahsuds, the Wazirs, both Darwesh Khel and Utmanzai, and the Bhittanis, of independent territory, and amongst British subjects, the Marwats. Of these the Mahsuds could furnish the largest supply of recruits, and, though the behaviour of men of this tribe in their local Militia has gained for the tribe a very unenviable notoriety, there is already good reason for the opinion that Mahsuds can be made into good soldiers, while excesses on their part of the nature usually described as fanatical need not be anticipated so long as they serve at a distance from their homes. Recruiting from all these tribes would probably have most chance of success if carried on by co-operation between the local authorities and the military officers who would command the companies when raised.

## CHAPTER IV.

# PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

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### 1. Agriculture.

[Further information will be found in the Provincial Land Revenue Report for 1903-04 and in the Agricultural Statistics of British India, 1903-04.]

102. Except in Hazara, the spring harvest is the more important. The average area sown in the Province for the autumn harvest is 948,386 acres, of which, in an ordinary year, 785,134 acres are harvested. The area normally sown for the spring harvest, on the other hand, is no less than 1,517,834 acres, of which 1,190,724 acres usually come to maturity. The bulk of the spring harvest, moreover, consists of wheat, a valuable crop, the high price commanded by which increases the disproportion between the two harvests.

Good harvests and favourable seasons rendered the prices of food-grains throughout the year under report (1903-04) lower than in the previous year. At the end of the year prices all round were lower than at any time during the previous decade.

### 2. Weather and Crops.

[Further information will be found in the Provincial Season and Crop Report for 1904-05 (North-West Frontier Province Government Press).]

103. The main feature of the autumn season (1904) was a somewhat rainfall and late monsoon. The absence of rain caused a decrease of 193,364 acres in the area sown as compared with kharif 1903. This decrease was most marked in Dera Ismail Khan and Bannu, in which it amounted respectively to 68 and 32 per cent. of the figures of the previous year. Good rain in August and October favoured growth, and only one-sixth of the area sown failed to mature a crop as against one-fifth—the usual proportion.

The October rains facilitated sowings for rabi everywhere. But the winter rains were late—the first falls occurring about the end of January. Severe cold followed in February and unusually heavy rains in March. April and May were drier than usual, but were marked by heavy hailstorms, which did much damage in Kohat and Peshawar. The area sown was 1,567,225 acres,—a little above the average,—and of which 11 per cent. failed to ripen. The harvested area in Dera Ismail Khan was 55 per cent. less than that of the previous rabi.

104. The area of wheat harvested was 829,100 acres and the outturn produce was 35 per cent. above the normal. The estimated outturn per acre was 679.5 lbs. as compared with 681 in rabi 1904 and 658 in 1903. Owing to the late winter rains the area sown with barley (279,288 acres) was again very large. The figures for the two preceding years were 266,165 acres in 1904 and 170,508 in 1903. Other rabi crops showed no marked fluctuation.

Of kharif crops there was a small falling off in maize, which, however, was still 7 per cent. above normal, and a large decrease in the area of bajra and jowar. This was due to the shortage of rain at sowing time, and was almost confined to the Bannu and Dera Ismail Khan districts. 92,821 acres of bajra and 52,510 acres of jowar were harvested as compared with 196,229 and 71,326 acres in the previous year. The sugarcane crop occupied 26,019 acres as against 27,242 in 1903. Much damage was done to it by the severe cold, especially in Bannu.

### 3. Horticulture.

[ Further information will be found in the Provincial Reports on Municipalities, District Boards and Arboriculture, 1904-05. ]

105. The Municipalities of the Province spent Rs. 19,241 on arboriculture, public gardens and experimental cultivation as compared with Rs. 19,652 in the previous year. Income under the heads garden receipts, sale of trees, grass, wood, &c., amounted to Rs. 6,337 as against Rs. 4,346. District Boards spent Rs. 78 on experimental cultivation and Rs. 5,058 on public gardens, while their income under the head Public Garden Receipts was Rs. 1,896 and under the head Sale proceeds of Trees, Grass, &c., Rs. 6,009.

### 4. Forests.

[ Further information will be found in the Report on the Administration of the Hazara Forest Division for the year 1903-04. ]

Alteration in area.

106. 46 acres out of the area under departmental management (234 square miles) were made over to the Military Works Department for road-making, while 134 acres of forest were included in the Notified Area of Nathiagali and Dungagali. The Forest regulations, however, still apply to this area.

Forest Settlements, Surveys and Demarcations.

107. The enumeration of pillars in the Dungagali and Khanpur ranges was finished, and the boundaries of these reserves have now been satisfactorily determined. The pillars in these forests are being repaired where necessary, and the repair of those in the Kagan and Siran ranges is now practically complete. The 4-inch maps of the Kagan and Siran ranges prepared in 1903 have been found on comparison to tally very closely with those of the Revenue Settlement Survey.

Administration.

108. The management of the Village and Reserved forests has been under review in connection with the settlement of the district, in the course of which decisions have been passed on most of the controverted questions. These include questions with regard to grazing and other rights and privileges in the Khanpur and Dungagali ranges, the rates of seigniorage payable by or to Government on account of trees felled for sale in Village or State forests, and the regulation of village forests. One result of the action taken for the preservation of village forests has been seen in the cessation of the sale of timber from them and in the reduced sale of firewood. This has caused an increased demand for timber and fuel from the State forests. The demand for timber has been easy to meet, for in many instances purchasers were ready to take standing trees; but the provision of fuel has, especially at Abbottabad, been a matter of some difficulty. Until such time, however, as private enterprise steps in, the difficulty must be faced by the Department.

Working Plans.

109. The scheme for working the Upper Kagan forests is being executed, and the difficulties of procuring labour are being overcome. Working plans for the Lower Kagan, Siran, Khanpur and Dungagali ranges are being prepared.

Communications and buildings.

110. Rs. 669 were spent on road-making, and further accommodation is being provided in the hills for the subordinate establishment. An increase of establishment is necessary and proposals are under consideration.

Forest offences.

111. 570 offences were reported in 1903-04—almost the same number as in the previous year. 34 were brought into Court and 496 compounded. Including those pending, 39 cases were disposed of by the Courts, 37 of which resulted in conviction.

112. That forest fires were neither so numerous nor so severe as usual is shown by the following comparison:—

Season.		Number of fires.	Area affected in acres.	Cost of protection.
1901-02	...	77	3,732	Rs. 763
1902-03	...	54	6,112	523
1903-04	...	29	2,902	442

The great decrease in the area fired is most satisfactory, and is probably due to the prompt action taken by the Deputy Commissioner to enquire into cases and to enforce village responsibility where the fires, as generally happened, were incendiary.

113. There has been no alteration in grazing arrangements.

Regulation of grazing.

114. The crop of deodar seed was again very scanty. The tree seems to be dying out in many areas where once it grew freely, while on the other hand elsewhere, as in the Upper Siran Forests, it is, in suitable spots, ousting other vegetation.

12,700 deodar seedlings were transplanted from the nurseries to Nuri and Dewan Bela. Many of the young plants died during the autumn, which was hot and dry. A smaller experiment in winter planting in Malkandi was more successful.

In the hope of finding a tree which will grow and thrive in soil unsuited for cultivation, with very little water, large sowings of Eucalyptus tereticornis have been made in the Abbottabad nurseries and elsewhere. The young trees are not yet old enough to bear transplantation.

115. 945,716 cubic feet of timber and 503,940 cubic feet of fuel were removed from the forests during the year as compared with 866,889 and 455,921 cubic feet in 1902-03. The increased output of timber is due in part to the requirements of the residence for the Chief Commissioner and new offices at Nathiagali, and in part to the increased activity of free grantees.

The following statement shows the amount of deodar timber launched from the Kagan Forests and received in the Jhelum Depôt during the nineteen years ending 1903-04:—

	LAUNCHED FROM FORESTS.		RECEIVED IN SALE DEPOTS.		LOSS IN TRANSIT.		
	Number.	Cubic feet.	Number.	Cubic feet.	Number.	Cubic feet.	
	Deodar logs	31,100	1,259,592	25,834	871,433	5,266	388,159
Do. scantlings	...	69,650	240,429	61,114	205,261	8,596	35,168

In 1903-04, 4,686 deodar logs and 3,889 deodar scantlings were launched. Out of these 2,702 logs and 2,921 scantlings were received in the depôt.

116. The financial results of the year as compared with the two previous years were :—

			Revenue.	Expenditure.	Surplus.
			Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1901-02	...	...	83,236	51,912	31,294
1902-03	...	...	99,148	56,034	43,114
1903-04	...	...	1,00,940	64,188	36,752

The increased expenditure fell mainly under the heads Conservancy and Works, Rs. 5,400 ; Timber working in Kagan, Rs. 5,000 ; and Surveys, Rs. 1,000.

## 5. Mines and Quarries.

[ Further details will be found in the Report on the Administration of the Northern India Salt Revenue Department, 1903-04 (Government Central Printing Office, Simla). ]

## Sales.

117. The sales of Kohat salt rose from 374,644 maunds in 1902-03 to 449,270 maunds in 1903-04. The reduction made in the duty on Kohat salt was small, and the increased sale is mainly ascribed to a favourable season in the North-West Frontier Province and neighbouring countries, and consequently enlarged purchasing power, and to a revival of the trade with Kabul. So far as the Amir's Government is concerned, this trade appears to be illicit.

## Transport.

118. Permission was given during the year to the booking of salt by rail from stations in the Kohat District *via* Campbellpur to stations in the Peshawar District. Peshawar is the chief centre whence salt destined for trans-border countries is exported. It is expected that rail transport as far as Peshawar will shortly supersede all methods of road carriage.

## Issue.

119. No general change in the system of issue was made, but at Bahadur Khel the miners were induced by a slight enhancement of price to stock their salt for sale in the Government dépôt provided for the purpose. That the small increase in cost is more than counterbalanced by increased convenience to traders is shown by the fact that the sales from Bahadur Khel during the year amounted to 91,866 maunds, an increase of 36 per cent. on the average output for the three preceding years. A similar alteration of system at Jatta and Malgin would be more difficult, but is necessary to the proper development of the trade in Kohat salt.

## 6. Manufactures.

[ Statistics will be found in the Judicial and Administrative Statistics of British India for 1904-05.]

## General.

120. There are in the Province two cotton cleaning factories, each of which employs more than 20 hands ; both are in Peshawar. During the year under review one factory was worked for 72 and the other for 110 days. In neither do the operatives live on the premises, and the sanitary condition of both is reported to have been good. The average rate of wages was five to six annas per diem for a man and four annas for a woman. Children were not employed.

One fatal accident took place during the year ; but no prosecutions were undertaken for offences under the Factories Act.

## 7. Trade.

[Further details will be found in the Report on the External Land Trade of the North-West Frontier Province for 1904-05.]

121. Trade, both import and export, is still expanding, as may be seen General. from the following table, in which the value of the total volume of trade with each of the neighbouring countries is shown in lakhs of rupees :—

		1900-01.	1901-02.	1902-03.	1903-04.	1904-05.
Tirah	...	...	9	12	9	8½
Afghanistan	...	...	47	61	69	81
Bajaur	...	...	100	103	96	104½
Buner	...	...	9	12	7½	6½
Kashmir	...	...	32	42	26	57
Total	...	197	231	207	243	301

Imports have risen from 72 lakhs in 1902-03 and 90 lakhs in 1903-04 to 106 lakhs in 1904-05, while exports have in the same years increased in value from 136 to 154, and again to 195 lakhs.

122. While the total volume of the Tirah trade showed little variation, Tirah. there was an appreciable increase in imports under the head firewood on account of the unusual cold of the winter, and in exports of Indian piece-goods, which appear to be ousting European piece-goods from the Tirah market.

123. The Afghan trade is now nearly three times what it was in 1900-01, Afghanistan. and is 53 per cent. greater than in 1903-04. Practically all heads of import show an improvement over last year's returns, the chief increase being under the heads silver; horses and ponies, ghi, mats and wool.

The increase under the head silver was no less than 9 lakhs, and represents the volume of Afghan trade in Peshawar, which is conducted in Kabuli rupees.

Amongst exports the chief heads of increase were :—

Silver	...	...	...	+	9½ lakhs.
European piece-goods	...	...	...	+	10½ „
Cattle	...	...	...	+	1½ „

The reasons alleged for the large export of silver are (1) the demand for the British rupee in Balkh and Bokhara, where it can be sold, it is said, at a profit of one anna over its face value; (2) its use in Afghanistan as an ornament; and (3) the fact that Afghan rupees valued at 7 to 8 annas in India can in Afghanistan be sold for 10 to 12 annas British.

Indian tea and autumn crops other than rice are the only articles of export which showed any considerable decrease. The total value of Indian tea exported indeed increased from  $2\frac{3}{4}$  to  $3\frac{1}{3}$  lakhs, but the increase was mainly confined to Kashmir, where alone black tea is in demand. In Afghanistan and Bajaur Chinese green tea appears to be the popular form of the beverage.

The increased export of cattle and decreased export of grains are signs of greater agricultural prosperity in Afghanistan.

124. The harvests of 1904-05 were exceptionally good throughout Dir, Bajaur, Swat and Bajaur, and an impetus was thus given to this trade, which rose from 89 to  $104\frac{1}{2}$  lakhs, the highest figure on record. Imports increased by  $5\frac{1}{2}$  and exports by 10 lakhs.

In imports the main increase was of rice, ghi and mats; while the export of European piece-goods, Indian and European twist and yarn, raw cotton, manufactured leather, spices, salt and indigo rose considerably.

Kashmir.

125. The trade with Kashmir shrank slightly from 59 to 57 lakhs. The decrease is confined to exports, especially under the head cotton piece-goods. The fluctuation is perhaps due to the unusual snowfall which kept the road into Kashmir impassable for so long during the winter.

### 8. Public Works.

[Further details will be found in the Provincial Reports of the North-West Frontier Province for 1904-05.]

Introductory.

126. For the administration of Public Works, other than works of irrigation, the Province is divided into four districts, each under a Commanding Royal Engineer, the whole being under the control of the Commanding Royal Engineer and Secretary to Chief Commissioner in the Public Works Department. Military and Civil Works are thus under the supervision of the same agency, but the report here summarised deals only with Civil Works. The objections to this amalgamation of the two branches of the Department are emphasized when the sanctioned establishment of Commissioned Officers is inadequate, as it has been throughout the year under report. The frequency of transfer of the Commissioned Officers and the unpopularity of service on the frontier in subordinate ranks also militate against efficiency.

The total expenditure on Civil Works during 1904-05 was Rs. 21,76,615 as compared with Rs. 20,88,699 in the previous year.

#### DERA ISMAIL KHAN.

Works begun,  
continued and  
ended during  
the year.

127. *Buildings.*—At head-quarters Court-houses were built for the Munsif and an Extra Assistant Commissioner, and additional accommodation was provided in the Police lines. A new police station was built at Sagu on the Pezu road, and work on Civil rest-houses at Bilot and Gundi Umar Khan was begun.

In Wana Agency (which for the purposes of the Department forms part of the Dera Ismail Khan District) the work on the Wana Post, for which an estimate of Rs. 16,442 had been sanctioned, and the alterations to the post at Nili Kach were practically completed. The unusual cold prevented much work from being done at Sarwakai and Kajuri Kach, and nothing was attempted at Tanai.

*Communications.*—Bridges were made on the Zhob road from Dera Ismail Khan to Draband, and from Draband to the Dahna Sar the road was completed.

Many causes conspired to retard the work on the Gomal road between Nili Kach and Kajuri Kach, but, all things considered, good progress was made. The difficulty of the work and the severity of the weather were between them responsible for a considerable number of casualties among the work people and contractors.

*Other works.*—The Municipal extramural drainage scheme at Dera Ismail Khan and at Tank the water-supply system were completed during the year.

#### KOHAT.

128. The Public Works Department district of Kohat includes the administrative districts of Kohat and Bannu and the Kurram and Tochi Agencies.

*Buildings.*—Work was begun on the Militia and Civil Post at Miramshah in the Tochi Agency, and the alterations to Idak Fort were nearly finished. In the Kurram an armourer's shop was built at Parachinar and the

dispensary at Alizai was completed. In the Kohat District a rais-khana was constructed at head-quarters, and a combined Border Military Police Post and Civil rest-house was built at Thal.

*Communications.*—The road across Kabul Khel country from Thal to Idak was practically completed, and a riding track was made from Doaba on the Khushalgarh-Kohat-Thal Railway to join the Thal-Teri road at Gurguri.

Work on the Kirman bridge in the Kurram Valley was rendered almost impossible by the cold and the floods, and little progress was made.

The crossing of the Chinghosta Nullah on the Kohat-Bannu road has been much improved.

#### PESHAWAR.

129. The departmental district of Peshawar includes the administrative district and the Khyber and Malakand Agencies.

*Buildings.*—At head-quarters barracks were built for the Border Military Police, a new office for the District Police, and a guard room for the District Treasury. Additions were made to the Administrative Offices, and a beginning was made with the rais-khana, which is being built for the Municipality at a cost of a lakh of rupees. A Civil rest-house was built at Topi, a Munsif's Court at Mardan, and a Border Military Police Post at Narai Khwar.

In the Khyber an armourer's shop was built at Landi Kotal, and the greater part of the work on the Jamrud water-supply was completed.

*Communications.*—The Mullagori road has been made fit for wheeled traffic throughout its length. Considerable progress was made in metalling the road from Nahakki eastwards through Charsadda and Mardan to Swabi. This road passes through some of the richest land in the district, and will greatly facilitate the transport of agricultural produce. It was found necessary to reconstruct the bridge-of-boats at Nowshera.

#### HAZARA.

130. For military purposes this district forms part of the Rawalpindi Division, and the supervision of Military Works in the district is exercised under orders from the head-quarters of the Rawalpindi Command. But, so far as Civil Works are concerned, the district remains part of the North-West Frontier Province.

*Buildings.*—The circuit-house at Abbottabad was begun; a Civil rest-house at Shinkiari and a house for the Assistant Commissioner at Oghi were built.

*Communications.*—The metalling of the second section of the Hazara Trunk Road from Abbottabad to Garhi Habibullah was completed, and parapet walls were erected where required. In the first section the Salhad Nullah was bridged.

### 9. Irrigation.

[Further details will be found in the Administration Report of the Canals in the North-West Frontier Province for the year 1904-05.]

#### A. SWAT RIVER CANAL.

131. *Capital Account.*—Expenditure under this head amounted to Expenditure, Rs. 1,433 as against Rs. 3,017 in the previous year.

*Maintenance and Repairs.*—Heavy outlay was necessary on account of the damage caused by unusually heavy rains. The construction of a catch-water drain along the Kalpani distributary, the consolidation of banks, berm-cutting and silt clearing accounted for an expenditure of Rs. 29,484 as compared with Rs. 19,458 in 1903-04.

*Extensions and Improvements.*—Expenditure rose from Rs. 851 to Rs. 2,060. The money was spent on the construction of two village road bridges.

Utility.

*Irrigation and Rainfall.*—17·02 inches of rain fell during the year as compared with an average rainfall of 13·58 inches. Consequently the demand for canal water was less than usual, and the area irrigated decreased from 176,346 to 159,412 acres. The average area irrigated during the previous six years was 162,974 acres.

Revenue.

*Financial Results.*—The net profits amounted to Rs. 4,04,572 or 9·70 per cent. on the capital invested. The profit in 1903-04 was Rs. 4,57,334—nearly 11 per cent.

Extensions.

*Projects.*—Surveys for the Upper Swat Canal were continued. The scheme was pronounced feasible, and a detailed project is being prepared for submission to the Government of India.

## B. KABUL RIVER CANAL.

Expenditure.

132. *Capital Account.*—Owing to the construction of the Hazar Khani Branch and the prosecution of the Amankot Drainage Scheme which was completed during the year, expenditure under this head rose from Rs. 22,508 to Rs. 1,29,829.

*Maintenance and Repairs.*—Rs. 10,995 were expended chiefly on the metalling of roads to mills as compared with Rs. 18,220 during the preceding year.

*Extensions and Improvements.*—Expenditure amounted to Rs. 2,329 as against Rs. 19,611 during 1903-04. The Zindai Tube Syphon was completed.

Utility.

*Rainfall and Irrigation.*—The heavy rains of the eastern portion of the Peshawar District did not reach the tract watered by the Kabul River Canal, and only 10·30 inches of rain were recorded as compared with 12·96 in the previous year. The area irrigated, however, decreased from 29,427 to 27,843 acres.

Revenue.

*Financial Results.*—The operations of the year resulted in a profit of Rs. 90,847, which is equivalent to 14·40 per cent. on the capital invested. In 1903-04 the profit and percentage were Rs. 55,106 and 11 per cent. respectively.

## C. CANALS NOT UNDER DEPARTMENTAL MANAGEMENT.

Peshawar.

133. The minor canals of the Peshawar District worked well. The net profit of the Michni Dilazak Canal was Rs. 8,250,—31 per cent. on the capital outlay,—and of the Shabkadar Branch Rs. 1,419. The water-supply in the Bara was good.

Kohat.

In Kohat there are no Government canals.

Bannu.

In Bannu the Kurram irrigation was satisfactory, but the villages on the Gambila (Tochi) again suffered severely from an inadequate water-supply. The income from the Mirabi Cess, &c., was Rs. 15,179 as compared with Rs. 10,688 in the previous year. The irrigation system in Bannu has been the subject of a special enquiry.

Dera Ismail Khan.

Irrigation in the Dera Ismail Khan District is of three kinds,—(1) Sailab (irrigation from the Indus), (2) Kalapani irrigation (from perennial hill streams), (3) Daman or flood irrigation from spates in hill torrents. All three were considerably improved under the able management of the late Captain Crosthwaite, which secured the confidence and co-operation of the people.

Towards the close of the year work was begun on the Paharpur Canal from the Indus, which it is estimated will irrigate some 50,000 acres.

# CHAPTER V.

## REVENUE AND FINANCE.

### A. Gross Revenue.

[Further details and statistics will be found in the Finance and Revenue Accounts of the Government of India for 1904-05.]

134. The following statement compares the receipts, expenditure and closing balances under the various heads of Revenue for 1903-04 and 1904-05. The figures for receipts and expenditure do not include opening and closing balances:—

HEAD.	RECEIPTS.		EXPENDITURE.		CLOSING BALANCE.	
	1903-04.	1904-05.	1903-04.	1904-05.	1903-04.	1904-05.
Imperial Revenue (Civil) (P. W. D.)	Rs. 33,02,584	Rs. 32,88,523	Rs. 55,18,902	Rs. 56,18,619	Rs. ...	Rs. ...
Local Funds—	6,29,893	*	24,49,005	*	...	...
Incorporated	3,77,778	3,77,392	3,71,187	3,80,819	1,48,169	1,40,839
Excluded	2,25,374	2,68,379	2,35,665	2,55,158	1,00,897	1,14,117
Municipal Revenue	5,10,305	5,64,519	5,55,888	5,44,121	1,63,498	1,88,896
Total	50,45,934	44,98,813	91,30,647	67,93,717	4,12,564	4,38,852

\* Figures for 1904-05 not yet available.

### B. Imperial Revenue and Finance.

135. Details of Imperial Revenue and Expenditure are shown in the following table:—

REVENUE.	1903-04.		EXPENDITURE.		1903-04.		1904-05.	
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
I.—Land Revenue	18,22,153	20,13,445	1.—Refunds and Drawbacks	18,610	17,454			
II.—Opium	9,197	7,225	2.—Assignments and Compensations	22,521	21,944			
IV.—Stamps	3,85,886	3,78,662	3.—Land Revenue	6,48,073	6,97,000			
V.—Excise	2,04,036	1,95,723	6.—Stamps	17,367	19,826			
VI.—Provincial Rates	73,367	48,081	7.—Excise	7,779	7,174			
VII.—Customs	...	...	10.—Assessed Taxes	817	922			
VIII.—Assessed Taxes	1,00,149	1,08,823	11.—Forest	60,608	74,953			
IX.—Forest	1,01,833	90,991	12.—Registration	8,711	8,985			
X.—Registration	30,115	26,182	13.—Interest on Ordinary Debt	...	...			
XII.—Interest	7,971	8,440	14.—Interest on other Obligations	...	...			
XIII.—Post Office	20,458	4,709	15.—Post Office	35,190	25,329			
XVI-A.—Law and Justice—Courts of Law.	1,08,014	84,279	18.—General Administration	2,36,424	2,48,803			
XVI-B.—Law and Justice—Jails	16,447	18,369	19-A.—Law and Justice—Courts of Law.	4,82,252	4,80,980			
XVII.—Police	96,838	90,737	19-B.—Law and Justice—Jails	1,00,378	98,779			
XIX.—Education	16	32	20.—Police	10,55,040	10,40,590			
XX.—Medical	5,251	2,887	22.—Education	35,413	44,272			
XXI.—Scientific, &c.	270	328	23.—Ecclesiastical	38,212	38,328			
XXII.—Receipts in aid of Superannuation, &c.	10,934	9,227	24.—Medical	78,814	71,476			
XXIV.—Stationery and Printing	8,353	8,793	25.—Political	23,23,289	21,05,712			
XXV.—Miscellaneous	1,30,008	86,971	26.—Scientific	7,528	9,402			
XXIX.—Major Works	...	...	27.—Territorial and Political Pensions.	59,802	64,601			
XXX.—Minor Works	68,048	127	29.—Superannuation Allowances, &c.	1,17,934	1,11,320			
XXXVI.—Civil Works	1,08,745	1,08,547	30.—Stationery and Printing	67,513	55,878			
Total	33,02,584	32,88,523	32.—Miscellaneous	49,286	16,187			
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT (ROADS AND BUILDINGS)—			33.—Famine Relief	...	...			
XXXII.—Civil Works	12,000	20,611	42.—Major Works	...	...			
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT (IRRIGATION)—			43.—Minor Works and Navigation.	21,498	24,963			
XXIX.—Major Works	5,65,634	5,31,751	SALT DEPARTMENT	78,605	77,041			
XXX.—Minor Works and Navigation.	1,17,913	1,25,184	GRAND TOTAL	80,18,027	81,89,834			
SALT DEPARTMENT	6,74,211	6,80,971						
GRAND TOTAL	46,72,342	46,47,290						

**C. Local Funds.****Introductory.**

136. Local Funds are divided into two classes,—Incorporated and Excluded. With a few exceptions of minor importance the accounts of all these funds are now audited locally by peripatetic auditors.

**INCORPORATED LOCAL FUNDS.**

137. Incorporated Funds include District Funds, the Patwaris' Fees Fund, the Khwarra and Zira Forests Fund, the Karawa Cess Fund, and the Copying Agency Funds. The opening balances, income, expenditure and closing balances of these funds for the year 1904-05 are shown in the annexed tables:—

*District Funds.*

Name of Fund.	Opening balance.	Receipts.	Total.	Payments.	Closing balance.
					Rs. A. P.
Peshawar ... ... ...	18,315 7 11	93,898 4 5	1,12,213 12 4	97,266 13 0	14,946 15 4
Hazara ... ... ...	10,928 3 6	27,701 4 2	38,629 7 8	28,412 0 3	10,217 7 5
Kohat ... ... ...	14,899 6 0	24,205 10 0	38,605 0 0	25,916 5 11	12,688 10 1
Bannu ... ... ...	11,893 14 11	33,473 2 6	45,367 1 5	35,002 10 9	10,364 6 8
Dera Ismail Khan ... ...	5,276 15 2	39,860 5 9	45,137 4 11	41,747 10 4	3,389 10 7
Total ...	60,813 15 6	2,19,138 10 10	2,79,952 10 4	2,28,345 8 3	51,607 2 1

The opening balance differs from the closing balance on 31st March 1904 by Rs. 3,902. This is due to the transfer of that sum to the Mianwali District Board by agreement with the Punjab Government.

The actual total receipts amounted to Rs. 2,19,138-10-10 as compared with Rs. 2,25,994-9-9 during the previous year, while the total payments amounted to Rs. 2,28,345-8-3 compared with Rs. 2,32,607-14-11. All the funds opened and closed with credit balances exceeding the prescribed minimum.

*Patwaris' Fees Funds.*

There is one such fund in each district, of which the transactions are shown below:—

Name of Fund.	Opening balance.	Receipts.	Total.	Payments.	Closing balance.
					Rs. A. P.
Peshawar ... ...	69,264 12 1	59,516 8 6	1,28,781 4 7	55,052 14 11	73,728 5 8
Hazara ... ...	3,401 0 0	22,665 5 4	26,066 5 4	22,731 3 1	3,335 2 3
Kohat ... ...	4,706 13 9	19,931 10 3	24,638 8 0	16,192 9 2	8,445 14 10
Bannu ... ...	1,519 8 6	18,713 12 10	18,233 5 4	18,230 10 10	2 10 6
Dera Ismail Khan ...	1,428 0 6	16,321 1 0	17,749 1 6	16,876 1 3	873 0 3
Total ...	80,320 2 10	1,85,148 5 11	2,15,463 8 9	1,29,088 7 3	86,385 1 6

The total receipts exceeded the estimated income by Rs. 7,148-5-11, while the actual payments fell below the estimate by Rs. 1,916-8-9. The total

receipts were Rs. 1,35,148-5-11 as compared with Rs. 1,26,113-6-0 in the previous year, and the total payments amounted to Rs. 1,29,083-7-3 against Rs. 1,13,365-11-5.

#### *Khwarra and Zira Forests Fund.*

This fund exists only in the Peshawar District. The opening and closing balances were *nil*. The receipts and expenditure amounted to Rs. 10,081-4-3 as compared with Rs. 7,696-1-6 during the previous year. This fund has been abolished from 1st April 1905, and the receipts and charges of the fund will thenceforth be recorded as receipts and expenditure of Government.

#### *Karawa Cess Fund.*

This fund exists in the Dera Ismail Khan District only. The receipts amounted to Rs. 3,202-3-6 as compared with Rs. 6,186-6-1 in the preceding year, and the payments to Rs. 3,363-5-3 as compared with Rs. 5,239-10-10. The opening balance was Rs. 1,860-13-11, while the balance at the close of the year was Rs. 1,699-12-2.

#### *Copying Agency Funds.*

During the year there were transactions in three districts only :—

Name of Fund.	Opening balance.		Receipts.		Total.		Payments.		Closing balance.	
	Rs.	A. P.	Rs.	A. P.	Rs.	A. P.	Rs.	A. P.	Rs.	A. P.
Peshawar ...	655	3 4	5,186	14 0	5,842	1 4	4,910	5 6	931	11 10
Hazara ...	453	2 6	4,147	4 5	4,600	6 11	4,446	13 11	153	9 0
Dera Ismail Khan ...	163	2 4	487	11 6	650	13 10	663	7 9	- 12	9 11
Total ...	1,271	8 2	9,821	13 11	11,098	6 1	10,020	11 2	1,072	10 11

The total receipts were Rs. 9,821-13-11 as compared with Rs. 11,787-14-6 during the preceding year, while the total payments amounted to Rs. 10,020-11-2 against Rs. 11,454-11-9.

#### *EXCLUDED LOCAL FUNDS.*

138. Excluded Local Funds are eight in number, *viz.* Cantonment Funds, Cantonment Hospital Funds (shown separately from 1st April 1904), Town and Bazar Funds, Police Funds, Public Works Funds, Agror Accumulation Fund (the nature of which was explained in the Administration Report on the period 9th November 1901 to 31st March 1903), a Famine Fund in the Dera Ismail Khan District, and Municipal Funds. The accounts of these funds for the year 1904-05 were as follows :—

#### *Cantonment Funds.*

There are eight such funds.

Name of Fund.	Opening balance.		Receipts.		Total.		Payments.		Closing balance.	
	Rs.	A. P.	Rs.	A. P.	Rs.	A. P.	Rs.	A. P.	Rs.	A. P.
Abbottabad ...	730	8 8	10,438	10 4	11,169	3 0	10,347	4 9	821	14 3
Peshawar ...	21,185	2 6	74,656	1 11	95,791	3 5	78,725	4 7	22,065	15 10
Nowshera ...	14,054	13 11	49,766	11 4	63,821	9 3	41,804	15 10	22,616	9 5
Mardan ...	249	9 9	3,853	2 3	4,102	12 0	3,222	6 2	880	5 10
Cherat ...	1,704	5 10	5,132	0 7	6,886	6 5	6,336	13 3	499	9 2
Kohat ...	1,417	8 1	18,109	9 7	14,527	1 8	13,977	2 5	549	15 3
Edwardesabad ...	145	3 10	10,097	7 0	10,242	10 10	8,158	13 3	2,083	13 7
Dera Ismail Khan ...	1,037	11 10	8,759	14 10	9,797	10 8	8,215	11 4	1,581	15 4
Total (1904-05) ...	40,475	0 5	1,75,813	9 10	2,16,288	10 8	1,65,288	7 7	51,000	2 8
Total (1903-04) ...	50,733	4 2	1,59,884	12 3	2,10,618	0 6	1,70,148	0 0	40,475	0 5

*Cantonment Hospital Funds.*

The accounts of three such funds were kept separately from 1st April 1904.

Name of Fund.	Opening balance.	Receipts.	Total.	Payments.	Closing balance.
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
Peshawar ... ...	... ...	5,514 5 3	5,514 5 3	5,514 5 3	5,514 5 3
Nowshera ... ...	... ...	3,096 2 2	3,096 2 2	2,850 3 8	245 14 6
Cherat ... ...	... ...	1,675 0 0	1,675 0 0	1,587 5 7	97 10 5
Total ... ...	... ...	10,285 7 5	10,285 7 5	9,951 14 6	333 8 11

*Town and Bazar Funds.*

The Hill Location and Sanitary Fund in the Hazara District is the only fund so called. It opened with a balance of Rs. 771-9-9, the receipts amounted to Rs. 721-1-5 as compared with Rs. 1,891-3-3 in the preceding year, the payments to Rs. 626-2-1 against Rs. 3,016-1-7 in the previous year, and the closing balance was Rs. 866-9-1.

*Police Funds.*

Name of Fund.	Opening balance.	Receipts.	Total.	Payments.	Closing balance.
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
Peshawar ... ...	2,505 14 8	2,110 15 0	4,616 13 8	2,036 7 3	2,530 6 5
Hazara ... ...	30 14 8	339 8 11	370 7 7	331 0 11	39 6 8
Kohat ... ...	129 13 1	805 10 0	935 7 1	457 11 0	477 12 1
Bannu ... ...	— 398 2 4	664 3 9	266 1 5	430 5 1	— 164 3 8
Dera Ismail Khan ... ...	— 14 14 3	962 5 2	947 6 11	893 5 5	54 1 6
Total (1904-05) ...	2,253 9 10	4,882 10 10	7,136 4 8	4,198 13 8	2,937 7 0
Total (1903-04) ...	1,890 14 4	4,046 6 6	5,937 4 10	3,683 11 0	2,253 9 10

These are branches of the Police Remount Fund under the control of the Inspector-General of Police.

*Public Works Funds.*

These funds, known as the Canal Clearance Funds, exist in three districts.

Name of Fund.	Opening balance.	Receipts.	Total.	Payments.	Closing balance.
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
Peshawar ... ...	25,415 4 10	31,132 7 0	56,547 11 10	24,058 4 3	32,489 7 7
Bannu ... ...	18,944 12 6	24,269 12 10	43,214 9 4	31,770 6 7	11,444 2 9
Dera Ismail Khan ... ...	12,768 3 8	18,811 8 6	31,579 12 2	17,339 12 10	14,239 15 4
Total (1904-05) ...	57,128 5 0	74,213 12 4	1,31,342 1 4	73,168 7 8	58,173 9 8
Total (1903-04) ...	65,073 0 9	58,654 1 3	1,13,727 2 0	56,598 13 0	57,128 5 0

The receipts of Peshawar Canals, hitherto known as the *mirabi* cess, began, with effect from Kharif 1903, to be credited to this fund.

*Agror Accumulation Fund.*

As mentioned in last year's report, the sum of Rs. 52,800 on account of the surplus balance of the Agror Estate has been invested in Government Promissory Notes in the name of the Deputy Commissioner, Hazara, and the interest on this investment is credited to this fund. The opening balance was Rs. 86-13-6, the receipts amounted to Rs. 2,462-14-3 as compared with Rs. 897-4-0 in the previous year, and payments to Rs. 1,924-9-9 against Rs. 2,222-15-6; the closing balance was Rs. 625-2-0.

*Famine Fund.*

This fund exists only in the Dera Ismail Khan District. There were no transactions during the year. It opened and closed with a balance of Rs. 181-8-0.

*Municipal Fund.*

These are sub-divided into Municipalities proper and Notified Areas. There are ten Municipalities and two Notified Areas in the North-West Frontier Province.

Their transactions are as noted below:—

Name of Fund.	Opening balance.	Receipts.		Total.	Payments.	Closing balance.
		Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Municipalities ... ... ...	1,51,748 9 10	5,50,463 9 8	7,02,212 3 6	5,33,589 1 11	1,68,623 1 7	
Notified Areas ... ... ...	11,749 13 1	14,055 13 10	25,805 10 11	10,532 10 3	15,273 0 8	
Total (1904-05) ... ... ...	1,63,498 6 11	5,64,519 7 6	7,28,017 14 5	5,44,121 12 2	1,88,896 2 3	
Total (1903-04) ... ... ...	2,09,082 6 7	5,10,304 9 1	7,19,386 15 8	5,55,888 8 9	1,63,498 6 11	

All the Municipalities and Notified Areas opened and closed with credit balances, and none of the closing balances fell below 10 per cent. of the receipts during the year under report.



## CHAPTER VI. VITAL STATISTICS & MEDICAL SERVICE.

### 1. Details of Census.

(See page 61 of the Report for the period 9th November 1901 to 31st March 1903.)

### 2. Vital Statistics.

[ Further details will be found in the Sanitary Administration Report of the Province for 1904 (Commercial Press, Peshawar) and in the Judicial and Administrative Statistics of British India for 1904-05. ]

139. 1904 was again an unhealthy year. The death-rate rose from Births and Deaths 28.4 per mille in 1903 to 28.56—a figure 4.36 above the quinquennial mean. At the same time there was a rise in the birth-rate, which stood at 34.93 as against 31.6 in 1903, while the quinquennial mean is 31.93.

It is noticeable that the North-West Frontier Province birth-rate is markedly lower than that of any other province except Madras (30.7),—probably owing to the smaller proportion of females,—while its death-rate is also lower than that of all provinces except Assam (25.85) and Madras (22.5).

As against 62,886 in 1903, the number of births recorded in 1904 was 69,544, of which 38,140 were males. 56,859 deaths were recorded—almost the same number as in the previous year. The death-rate among Hindus (22.01) was again far below the provincial average.

All that is possible is being done to secure accurate registration, and it may be that some of the changes noted above are to be ascribed to improvements in this direction.

140. While there was only one case of cholera and four imported cases Diseases. of plague, deaths from fevers rose from 42,549 to 44,387—about 78 per cent. of the total mortality. As usual the disease was most prevalent in January, November and December.

### 3. Sanitation.

141. The Municipal towns and Notified Areas of the Province which, as shown last year, have already benefited so largely by their attention to sanitation spent in 1904 Rs. 1,46,588 on sanitary improvement as against Rs. 1,38,452 in 1903. The sum thus spent in 1904 represents 26 per cent. of the Municipal incomes. The main improvements effected during the year were:—At Abbottabad a pipe-water supply from Kakool was introduced during October; in Peshawar the supply of pure drinking water to private houses was further extended, and Rs. 20,031 were spent in the improvement of the drainage system, which can now challenge comparison with that of any city in India; good progress was made with the Dera Ismail Khan City drainage scheme; and Tank was provided with a pipe-water supply. The total cost of this work was Rs. 52,798. The effect on the health of the town was at once apparent.

Little is or can be done in the way of sanitary work in rural areas, but every year sees a small but useful expenditure on the part of Local Bodies or charitable persons for the construction and up-keep of wells of pure water at convenient places on the main roads.

#### 4. Medical Relief.

[Further information will be found in the Provincial Report on Dispensaries for 1904 (Commercial Press, Peshawar) and in the Judicial and Administrative Statistics of British India for 1904, Section XIV.]

Attendance at  
Dispensaries  
maintained by  
the State or by  
Local Bodies.

142. In 1904, 8,396 in-patients were treated in the 39 dispensaries of the Province as against 7,787 in 1903. Of these 8,396 in-patients, 6,373 were discharged as completely cured, 1,061 were relieved, 524 were discharged "otherwise," and 303 died. These figures show a general improvement in working. The number of out-patients also rose from 539,573 in 1903 to 582,120 in 1904. There is a small but steady increase in the number of women patients.

Operations.

143. 22,867 principal and 28 secondary operations were performed as against 22,913 and 113 in 1903. The slight decrease is said to be due to the frequent transfers of Medical Officers. Patients almost invariably prefer to be operated on by European doctors, but are naturally chary of entrusting themselves even to these until they have some knowledge of them whether by experience or reputation. Sufferers will often come into hospital asking for the services of a particular officer by name, and finding that he has been transferred will go away without treatment rather than submit themselves to a stranger.

Finance.

144. The total income of all dispensaries was Rs. 1,04,180 as against Rs. 95,414 in 1903, and their total expenditure Rs. 1,02,500 as compared with Rs. 93,845. Amongst receipts contributions from Imperial and Municipal Funds and subscriptions from Native gentlemen showed a marked increase; the increased expenditure fell under the heads Establishment, European medicines, Buildings and repairs.

Charitable  
Institutions.

145. The private hospitals of the Province—nine in number—contain 186 beds. 2,527 in-patients and 59,593 out-patients were treated in these institutions, and 4,330 operations were performed in them. These hospitals are most popular, and do a great deal of good work.

#### 5. Vaccination.

[Further details will be found in the Provincial Report on Vaccination for 1904-05 (Commercial Press, Peshawar) and in the Judicial and Administrative Statistics of British India for 1904-05, Section XVI.]

General.

146. The permanent Vaccination establishment remained unchanged, but the number of operations performed was 22,134 less than in 1903-04, in which year an outbreak of small-pox caused a large proportion of the inhabitants of Chitral to get themselves vaccinated. There was an increase of 7,249 in the number of vaccinations performed in the settled districts (72,493). Of the total number of primary vaccinations, 74,267, or 98.96 per cent., were successful. The proportion of successful revaccinations was, as usual, lower.

The total expenditure on vaccination was Rs. 11,222, about the same sum as in 1902-03 and 1901-02. The figure for 1903-04 (Rs. 14,454) was higher on account of the extra establishment temporarily entertained in Chitral to cope with the outbreak above mentioned.

The cost of each successful vaccination was Re. 0-2-5 as compared with Re. 0-2-6 in the previous year.

## CHAPTER VII. INSTRUCTION.

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### 1. General system of Public Instruction.

(See page 69 of the Report for the period 9th November 1901 to 31st March 1903.)

### 2. Education.

[ Further details will be found in the Report on Public Instruction in the North-West Frontier Province for 1904-05 and in the Judicial and Administrative Statistics of British India, 1904-05, Section X. ]

147. During the year under report the number of public educational institutions rose from 206 to 217, and of pupils therein educated from 13,975 to 14,788. Private Schools also increased in number from 744 to 834, while their attendance rose from 12,464 to 13,026.

148. Taking Public and Private Schools together there is an increase of 101 schools and 1,375 scholars, and the total number of children under instruction was 27,814 or 8·3 per cent. of those of school-going age in the Province. Of the scholars 20,048 or 74 per cent. were Muhammadans, 6,393 were Hindus, and 1,340 were Sikhs. Comparison with last year's report shows that all communities contributed proportionately to the advance. Of the pupils 2,647 were girls as against 2,316 in the previous year and 2,104 in 1902-03.

149. The total expenditure on public instruction was Rs. 1,98,757 as compared with Rs. 1,90,889 in 1903-04. Increased expenditure under other heads—chiefly on the salary of the Inspector-General of Education, an appointment which was only in existence for three months of the preceding year—was to a large extent balanced by a reduction of Rs. 16,500 in outlay on buildings. It may be questioned whether this was judicious economy, for throughout the Province school accommodation, especially in rural Primary Schools, is in dire need of extension and improvement.

150. Of the expenditure Rs. 41,751 were contributed from Imperial Funds; from District Funds Rs. 60,215; by Municipalities Rs. 38,834; Rs. 36,803 were realized from fees, and Rs. 21,154 from other sources. The corresponding figures for the previous year were Rs. 31,124, Rs. 51,761, Rs. 38,266, Rs. 34,880 and Rs. 34,858. The continued increase in receipts from fees is satisfactory.

151. Seven new Primary Schools were opened by District Boards, thus increasing the number of institutions under this management from 150 to 157. The District Board Schools have much improved as regards furniture, appliances and gymnastic apparatus, but generally leave much to be desired in respect of buildings and libraries. The District Boards, however, with their limited resources are not to blame for these deficiencies, for in all districts, except Bannu and Dera Ismail Khan, the District Boards spent considerably more than the prescribed minimum on education, and the gross expenditure under this head amounted to 93·4 of the minimum demandable as compared with 85 per cent. in the previous year, 77·1 in 1902-03, and 58 in 1901-02. In Bannu and Dera Ismail Khan, where lower primary education is free, the percentage of children of school-going age under instruction—14·6 and 11·3—is considerably above the provincial average.

To the 17 schools which, as shown in last year's report, are under Municipal management, two new Girls' Schools were added. The management of Municipal Schools was generally satisfactory and their supply of furniture and essential appliances adequate. But like all schools in this Province, where the

educational service offers scanty prospects, the Municipal Schools suffer from the difficulty in securing qualified teachers. All Municipalities, except Peshawar, spent more on education than the 10 per cent. of their income which can be demanded of them.

## Primary Education.

152. District Boards are, as was to be expected, the authority most intimately connected with primary education, and of the 179 Primary Schools for boys in the Province 147 are District Board Schools (of which 18 are Zamindari) and 5 are Municipal, while 21 are classed as aided and 6 as unaided. The attendance in Primary Schools rose from 8,302 to 8,797, while, including the pupils in the primary classes of Secondary Schools and girls, those in receipt of primary instruction numbered 13,313 as compared with 12,537 in 1903-04. Of the children in Primary Schools 60·8 per cent. were returned as agriculturists as against 55·2 per cent. last year. Expenditure rose from Rs. 36,580 to Rs. 41,326 and receipts from fees to Rs. 3,593 as compared with Rs. 3,216. Examination results were again satisfactory, the percentage of successes in the Upper Primary Examination being 67·79—a slight improvement on last year.

## Secondary Education.

153. The number of Secondary Schools in the Province—25—remained unaltered. 16 of these are Anglo-Vernacular and 9 Vernacular Middle Schools. The Vernacular Middle School at Mardan was converted into an Anglo-Vernacular Middle School. Including pupils in the primary departments of these schools, the numbers rose from 5,078 to 5,120. Of these 2,247 were learning English as compared with 2,139 in 1903-04. Expenditure increased from Rs. 56,413 to Rs. 58,114. Fee receipts rose by Rs. 913, and the amount spent on scholarships increased from Rs. 5,608 to Rs. 5,944. In the Punjab University Entrance Examination 171 candidates appeared and 87 or 50·8 were successful as compared with 61·8 per cent. last year.

## Collegiate Education.

154. The Edwardes Church Mission College remains the only collegiate institution in the Province. It is recognized by the Punjab University up to the standard of the Intermediate Examination, and had on its roll 23 students at the close of the year—an increase of 6. Its expenditure—exclusive of the salary of the Principal, who is also Head Master of the Mission High School—was Rs. 1,293 against Rs. 952 in 1903-04, and was almost entirely defrayed by the income from fees. Of the ten candidates prepared for the Intermediate Examination 5 were successful.

## Female Education.

155. Four new schools for girls were opened—three in the Bannu and one in the Dera Ismail Khan District—raising the total number of Public Girls' Schools from 8 to 12. All are Primary,—6 Board, 3 aided and 3 unaided. The number of girls in receipt of instruction rose from 2,316 to 2,647, but of these 1,805 attended private schools. Of the pupils 1,458, a relatively small proportion, were Muhammadans. Female education, though backward everywhere, makes most progress in Dera Ismail Khan and least in Peshawar.

## Education in the Trans-Border Agencies—Kurram.

156. In the Kurram there exists an Anglo-Vernacular Middle School at Parachinar and 6 Primary Schools at different villages in the valley. The number of pupils in all was 210 at the close of the year as against 215 at the end of 1903-04. Attendance in the Primary Schools increased, but was counterbalanced by the fact that on the beginning of Settlement operations almost the entire 5th Form of the Parachinar School left to take up work in connection with the Settlement. The total expenditure on education in this Agency was Rs. 3,705, towards which Imperial Funds contributed Rs. 3,045. No fees are levied in the Primary Schools. The difficulty in obtaining qualified teachers, felt throughout the Province, is accentuated in the Kurram, and of the 10 teachers employed in the valley only two possess any departmental qualifications.

## Tochi.

Two new schools were opened at Miranshah and Idak, making a total of four Primary Schools in the valley. These were maintained at a cost of Rs. 1,190 defrayed from Imperial Revenues; and 121 boys, of whom 81 were Muhammadans, were in receipt of instruction.

During the year a school was opened at Drazinda in the Sheranni country at the request of the inhabitants. Similar beginnings have been made in the Afridi villages beside the Khyber Pass, and at Wana a few sons of local Maliks receive instructions from the Militia Schoolmaster. Elsewhere,

### 3. Literature and the Press.

157. There are 17 printing presses in the Province. Of these 9 are in Peshawar, 4 in Dera Ismail Khan, 2 in Kohat, 1 each in Abbottabad and Bannu. At the last mentioned a newspaper is produced under the direction of Dr. Pennell of the Church Mission Society. Its circulation is small.

### 4. Literary Societies.

(See page 72 of the Report for the period 9th November 1901 to 31st March 1903.)





## CHAPTER VIII. ARCHÆOLOGY.

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[ Further details will be found in the Report on Archaeological Survey work in the North-West Frontier Province and Baluchistan for the period from January 2nd, 1904, to the 31st March 1905.]

158. Dr. Stein's investigations at Adh-i-Samudh in the Kohat District, General. at the Akra Mound near Bannu, and at the Kafirkot in Dera Ismail Khan were mentioned in last year's report. The most important archaeological work Mahaban. which he has been able to undertake during the year under review was a visit to the Mahaban Range, to Banj, and Asgram on the Yusafzai border. On this expedition, which lasted six days, Dr. Stein was accompanied by the Assistant Commissioner, Mardan, who was responsible for the political arrangements that rendered the undertaking possible. No escort of any kind was taken, although the country visited had never before been traversed by Europeans, and was even to a great extent unsurveyed. Dr. Stein's researches prove that, though pre-Muhammadan buildings of some size exist on Mahaban, especially at Shahkot, the topography of the range cannot be reconciled with the accounts given by Arrian, Curtius and Diodorus of the fortress of Aornos, with which Mahaban had been identified by General Abbott. Aornos, it will be remembered, was the rock in the land of the men of Bazira, to which they betook themselves at Alexander's approach, and from which he had such difficulty in dislodging them. The authority of none of the classical historians is first-rate, and their mutual discrepancies in this instance are so considerable as to lend colour to Dr. Stein's hypothesis, that the story of the siege and capture of Aornos, like the accounts of other exploits attributed to the Emathian conqueror, is largely mythical.

159. Besides the inspection of the Mahaban Range an examination of Banj. I the place now known as Banj was effected. This Dr. Stein has identified with the place where Buddha made the famous offering of his body to feed a starving tigress. The accounts of the locality given by Dr. Stein certainly tally surprisingly with the descriptions given by the Chinese pilgrims Song Yun and Hiuen Tsang, and the reasoning with which Dr. Stein supports his theory appears convincing.

160. Though of minor interest compared with Mahaban and Banj, Asgram. some interesting ruins were seen at Asgram, and the identification of that place with the Asigramma of Ptolemy the Geographer, which was first suggested by Colonel Deane, must be regarded as highly probable.

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## CHAPTER IX. MISCELLANEOUS.

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### 1. Ecclesiastical.

(See page 75 of the Report for the period 9th November 1901 to 31st March 1903.)

### 2. Provincial Civil Veterinary Department.

[Further details will be found in the Report of the Civil Veterinary Department, North-West Frontier Province (Government Press, North-West Frontier Province), for 1904-05.]

161. The office of Superintendent, Civil Veterinary Department, Introductory. North Punjab and North-West Frontier Province, was abolished early in 1905, and veterinary work in this Province, except horse-breeding in Hazara, a selected district under the Army Remount Department, is now under the supervision of the Superintendent, Civil Veterinary Department, Punjab and North-West Frontier Province, whose head-quarters are at Lahore. The need for the establishment of a separate Superintendent for this Province is already felt, and the veterinary developments which are contemplated will emphasise this necessity.

The number of Veterinary Assistants remained the same as last year—viz. eight. Under the new scheme, which the Imperial grant of Rs. 35,000 per annum for agricultural and veterinary development has facilitated, it is hoped that the Veterinary staff will ultimately comprise 2 Inspectors—who have already been appointed—and 19 Assistants,—2 for the Agencies and 1 at the head-quarters of each tahsil, where small Veterinary dispensaries will also in time be established. The necessary trained staff will not be forthcoming at once, but the recent enhancement of the departmental rates of pay and the institution of the two posts of Inspector should suffice to render the service attractive. Two students have already been sent from Hazara and Peshawar to the Lahore Veterinary College to hold the scholarships recently endowed by the District Boards of those districts.

162. The year appears to have been healthy for horses and fairly so for General cattle, though the inadequacy of the Veterinary establishment renders the returns untrustworthy. An outbreak of anthrax in the Hazara District caused the death of 95 animals. 644 head of cattle were inoculated and the disease then abated. One case of glanders only occurred, in the lines of the 23rd Cavalry at Newshera. No cases of foot-and-mouth disease were reported, but an outbreak of rinderpest, in which 500 animals succumbed, was reported in the Kohat and Hangu tahsils.

163. The annual Bannu-Dera Ismail Khan horse fair was held at Bannu Horse fair. in March. 951 animals were exhibited as compared with 753 in 1903,—the last occasion on which the fair took place at Bannu,—and Rs. 1,962 were distributed in prizes. The best and largest class was that of brood mares. No remounts were purchased for the Cavalry, but five animals were bought for the Bannu and Kohat Border Military Police at an average cost of Rs. 215 each. It is proposed in future years to combine a cattle show with this fair and to institute a similar combined show at Peshawar.

164. The number of stud animals kept in the Province at the close of Breeding the year was 6 stud bulls, 4 pony, and 4 horse stallions (in the non-selected operations districts), and 7 donkey stallions. In no case is this an adequate provision.

165. A gratifying feature of the year's work was the growing Dispensaries. popularity of the Veterinary dispensaries at Peshawar, Kohat, Mardan, Bannu and Dera Ismail Khan. 3,499 animals were treated in these institutions as compared with 977 in the previous year.